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THE ODYSSEY OF RADIO MAUBERE

(originally published in the Maputo Tempo in Portuguese, 25 Jan 81; translation in The South and East Asia Report, No. 974, 25 Feb 81; via R. Horvitz) by Areosa Pena

"In celebration of the fifth anniversary of the declaration of independence of the Democratic Republic of East Timor, we managed to resume the broadcasts of Radio Maubere, which had been silent for two years, from a hidden location somewhere in the Timorese mountains," Mari Alkatiri, East Timor's foreign relations minister, told Tempo. Alkatiri recounted the odyssey that led to the reopening of the broadcasting station. "The first broadcast of this new phase, which was aired on 28 November 1980 and lasted only fifteen minutes, had extraordinary repercussions within the country. Internationally, it received wide publicity and caused changes in attitudes regarding East Timor."

The old Portuguese colonial station in Dili was actually a station of the Portuguese National Broadcasting System in Timor. For years, it was the official organ of the Terreiro do Paco regime. It inundated the Timorese with colonial fascist propaganda, with waves of chauvinism, anticommunist programs, Salazar's speeches and Caetano's "Home Chats." In an attempt to mongrelize the Maubere culture, it broadcast "fada" /ballads/ by Amalia and Herminia, and Portuguese folk and dance music.

Then came 25 April, and the ideological support that was sent over the air waves collapsed. Moreira Baptista, "minister of wines and tidbits," was ousted from Rue das Quelhas, and Radio Dili began to talk about "independence," and to say "down with colonialism"--to the outraged astonishment of some officials and the progeny of the best stock... "What insolence! What cheek! What lack of respect!" ...The rebellion against the foreign occupier took fire; parties emerged and FRETILIN was organized.

On 11 August 1975, the Timorese Democratic Union (UDT), the neocolonialist party, occupied the Portuguese radio station. It gave the station the name Radio Maubere and took control, but only for a short time. The FRETILIN Central Committee withdrew to bases and refuges high in the island's mountains. "In one of these refuges, using old radios from the colonial army, our radio technicians built a transmitter, which we used to counter the propaganda broadcast by the UDT from the Dili station. This primitive and almost handmade transmitter aired its first broadcast on 17 August 1975. A few days later, however, we occupied Dili and took control of Radio Maubere," Alkatiri continued. Actually, with the support of the population, FRETILIN occupied Dili and took over the radio station on 27 August 1975, and for over 3 months FRETILIN broadcast to all the national territory of Timor through Radio Maubere's microphones.

On 7 December 1975, in an operation to implement Suharto's expansionist program, the Indonesian military forces invaded Dili. When the capital fell, the FRETILIN leadership and most of its army again retreated to bases in the dense jungle that covers Timor's impenetrable mountain ranges. They retreated, but they took a more powerful transmitter from the Dili station with them. Radio Maubere went with them. Three transmitting stations were located in the same area as a back-up system in case of breakdowns. At that time, Radio Maubere broadcast for 3 hours every night. "To insure that its secret location would not be revealed and to protect it from sabotage and enemy attacks, we turned control of Radio Maubere over to Alarico Fernandes, the minister of security," the East Timor foreign relations minister explained, adding: "On 4 December 1978, Fernandes betrayed us and turned the transmitters over to the Indonesians.

..."A committee of support for the struggle of the Maubere people, comprising Timorese emigres and progressive Australians, operated from Darwin. This committee received our reports and transmitted them to the 5,000 Timorese emigrants scattered over Australia and to the world."

After 4 December 78, with no radio, it became extremely difficult for the support group in Darwin to maintain contact with the island, which was surrounded by Indonesian warships and swarming with invading troops on land. Moreover, the support committee began to have serious problems after the 1977 elections in Australia, when the labor government, which sympathized with the FRETILIN cause, was replaced by a conservative government, which agreed to support the Indonesian designs on the territory of East Timor in exchange for navigation and oil-exploration rights in the island's territorial waters.

"As soon as the transmitters fell into enemy hands, we immediately began efforts to reestablish Radio Maubere broadcasts. It was not just a matter of acquiring new equipment; we had to create the conditions on the terrain," Alkatiri explained, continuing his narrative. "The new conditions we hoped to create were achieved with the convergence of the guerrillas advancing from the east and west to the center. The central zone was the one most affected by the betrayal of Alarico Fernandes. In June and July 1980, we launched a series of lightning attacks against the capital. In one of these attacks, we launched a 'raid' against Radio-Television of Indonesia. We captured powerful equipment, which the people helped us transport to the mountains, and

we dismantled the television transmitter. It transmitted in color, and retransmitted programs received by satellite from Jakarta."

...The technicians set up the equipment at a site known only to high officials of the party and government and to the personnel who maintain and operate the radio station. They were ready, and on the night of 28 November 1980, the fifth anniversary of the declaration of independence, Radio Maubere was on the air again, announcing its reopening to the people and defying the Indonesians. FRETILIN had won the battle of the radio.

Three times a week, for 15 minutes, broadcasting in Portuguese and Tetum, Radio Maubere is mobilizing the Timorese people. The broadcasts are short, so the Indonesian radio signal detector cannot locate the transmitter and bomb it. Irritated, its pride wounded, the Indonesian command reacted; it has defined the radio station as one of its major targets for destruction...

In the archipelagoes controlled by Indonesia, the many rebel groups fighting against Suharto and his corrupt fascist regime have gained new courage from this FRETILIN victory. The odyssey of Radio Maubere is only one episode in a 5 year war waged by the people of Timor (1 million inhabitants in 1975, and 200,000 deaths in this war) against a well-armed occupation army of 50,000 soldiers--as against only 7,000 guerrillas. It is a war of oppressed against oppressor: it is a struggle for the liberation of native soil; it is a struggle which, like all just struggles, must inevitably be victorious.

WHY CONGRESS SHOULD INVESTIGATE RFE/RL (Ed Stone, NY) The follow-up material about the continuing repercussions to Soviet dissident criticism of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (November RIB) was engrossing reading. I don't have enough solid data to judge either John Hayes or the dissidents to be correct, but in the absence on concrete, irrefutable facts, I'd place my bet on what the Washington Star had to say.

The charges and counter-charges have only served to further cloud the issue, and I think it's time to have the whole RFE/RL policy, budget, operations and bureaucracy reviewed in depth by the appropriate Congressional oversight committee. With a new administration in Washington determined to sweep clean and trim bloated Federal spending, this may very well happen as a matter of course. Congressmen usually sniff blood on this type of thing from twenty miles away; it's just the thing to "prove" to the folks back home that you are "tough on Communism"--both for newly elected conservative Republicans threatened by a disillusioned constituency ("What have you done now that you're in office?") and for liberal Democrats threatened by the so-called new conservative mood in the country.

If RFE/RL function anything like our other bureaucracies, they likely are a bunch of bungling bureaucrats inspite of their own best efforts. As we've seen in the past, having the "best and the brightest" is no guarantee of success. Our strategic communications agencies seem to have an uncanny predilection for obvious mistakes that range from our complete ignorance of the true proportions of Iranian discontent under the Shah to our sending broadcasts to occupied Afghanistan in a language incomprehensible to most of the population. Visions are conjured up of the CIA comically trying to kill Fidel Castro with an exploding cigar. It seems to be part of the same cloth.

Some of John Hayes' assertions need to be backed up, particularly those about the estimated size of Eastern European listenership. How does one go about estimating such a nonconfirmable statistic? Is his measure reliable or valid in the statistical sense? And if many listen, do they believe what they hear? Why, or why not? Has RFE/RL conducted interviews with recent East Bloc emigres to find out what their countrymen think about our radio policy and programs, or to find out what they would like to hear? Are those listening atypical of the views and information needs of the "average" East Bloc citizen we want to reach? Which group should we cater to?

Although it's perfectly understandable, our policy reflects our view of the needs of those behind the Iron Curtain. Is a news commentary more important than a "consumer" tip that would help them improve the quality of their lives a little? And wouldn't the latter encourage more to listen and lend greater prestige to RFE/RL?

These aren't easy questions to answer. One can also sympathize with John Hayes. He must quell internecine fighting, solicit ever-bigger appropriations (due to inflation) from Congress, politely deal with sometimes fanatic dissidents wanting to broadcast inflammatory material, and justify his handling of the entire mess.

But with the Cold War chilling our bones again, a renewed Soviet military threat, and stagflation at home, we need to take a new critical look at Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. They may be noble, worthy ventures justifying their costs, or an expensive tilting at windmills with minimal results to show for our efforts and tax dollars. We may find that we need that we need them all the more now to encourage peace, or have to face the uncomfortable decision that we must now use them as a weapon. It's definitely not the time for a McCarthy-type witchhunt. It is time for reordering our priorities, tightening the Federal belt and performing the kind of non-partisan, objective and constructive examination of a government organization that is necessary every few years in a democracy. Without this, Radio Free Europe or Radio Liberty would be unworthy of their names. Each broadcast would be an exercise in hypocrisy. AR

THE G.A.O. ON RFE/RL

(R Horvitz, CT) Some of you may have caught ALL THINGS CONSIDERED's discussion on March 27 about international broadcasting by the US, in connection with President Reagan's proposed budget increases for VOA and RFE/RL. During the discussion, a recent evaluation of RFE/RL by the General Accounting Office was cited. Even before the show was over, I was on my way to the library to look up this document. Its title is: Improvements Made, Some Still Needed in Management of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, GAO Report ID-81-16 (March 2, 1981). Much of the report deals with financial and budgetary controls, but some chapters cover on-the-air performance, personnel, and planning for the future. In many ways, the most interesting part is the one quoted by NPR, about on-the-air performance. Since RFE/RL is the #1 broadcaster to Eastern Europe and the USSR, this is a most important subject, especially in times of great east/west tension, and the GAO report probably deserves wider attention than it's gotten so far. So herewith a summary of what I thought were the salient points. Be aware, however, that since the GAO's purpose is to identify problem-areas and propose improvements, its report emphasizes problems and glosses over areas where things are hunky-dory: its bias is negative.

Lacking the background knowledge and language skills to evaluate RFE/RL's output directly, the GAO--like the Congress, the BIB, and RFE/RL's own top management--had to turn to the Broadcast Analysis Department (BAD), RFE/RL's in-house oversight group, for program synopses and reviews. While the BAD denied that there had been any violations of the Program Policy Guidelines or the Statement of Mission, GAO found that "a review of the Broadcast Analysis files portrays a different picture. The files contained some of the following comments: ='There is a pervasive overtone of incitement about this program. It should never have been allowed to go on the air'. ='The litany /Mission Statement & Program Policy Guidelines/ reads "Avoidance of any programing that could be construed as encouraging defections". In my estimation the attached program... could be so construed'. ='The program...is clearly in error in not clearly attributing the assertions...'/etc./" The GAO found that in 1979, 335 "written reservations" about programs were recorded by the BAD. These represent "more serious infractions" of guidelines (minor infractions are dealt with orally or by "routing slip"; a BAD official estimates that for every written reservation filed, 5 or 6 additional problems are resolved orally). Of these, 69 were for "misinterpretation or incorrect information", 61 were for "exaggerated or inappropriate programing". About half of the reservations stemmed from RL's Russian language service. (It is not clear whether this disproportionate rate is due to the closer scrutiny given to RL's Russian service, or to actually-inferior performance.) Even more reservations might have been recorded, but staff vacancies in the BAD meant that 12 of RL's language services had "a lack of adequate coverage". Summing up, GAO says, "Based on discussions with a number of program personnel, it appears there is a breakdown in programers knowing what is--and what is not--expected of them... we concluded that the /Broadcast Analysis/ Department's role is the key to program policy review. However, its authority and responsibility have not been clearly defined to serve as an independent, objective evaluator. Its mission has been broadly defined and in such a manner as to keep the impact of the Broadcast Analysis Department minimal on programing". The report goes on to make a very interesting point: while the Board for International Broadcasting is supposed to oversee RFE/RL on behalf of the American people and government, it "does not receive information resulting from the critical work of the Broadcast Analysis Department. BIB should, according to regulations, receive information from RFE/RL on violations of broadcast policy... BIB believes that its efforts to obtain such information would further inhibit the Department". From this I conclude that the BAD is already about as popular within RFE/RL as cost-overrun whistle-blowers are in the Pentagon, and if BAD's authority were to be increased--by, for instance, giving them a direct channel to the BIB--there could be some sort of program-staff backlash. A second conclusion is that the BIB is already being neutralized by the withholding of information they need to perform their oversight function, and which they are supposed to get "according to regulations". (GAO said nothing about abolishing the BIB as per the recurring rumors.)

The GAO pointed out that there are problems created by the present dual-oversight system, in which both the BIB and RFE/RL, Inc., are supposed to watch what's going on--the latter with operational responsibility, the former as financial conduit. But GAO offered no suggestions for clarifying the relationship between the two.

On the positive side, GAO reviewed the semi-annual reports on RFE/RL's output that are filed by the US embassies in the "target countries". These "showed that for the most part the broadcasts were acceptable". (To that rather lukewarm endorsement, I would add that, given the fact that RFE/RL produces thousands of shows containing 100,000s of facts and assertions in nearly two dozen languages each year, 335 infractions of guidelines is probably not too alarming a number. It would be more important to know the exact nature of each lapse--but GAO isn't specific.)

Later in the report, the GAO identifies a major problem in the years ahead: replenishing RFE/RL's staff. Right now, the average age is 48.3, with 42% of the people over the age of 55. "Little progress has been made in the areas of staff development, orientation for new employees, and recruitment... RFE/RL has no formal recruitment program". The problem is exacerbated by the shortage of Americans who are fluent in the Eastern European languages; as a stopgap measure RFE/RL is encouraging its non-American staff to learn English.

Also looking to the future, the GAO notes the present lack of a long-range US policy for international broadcasting: "In view of plans for increasing coverage and improving technical facilities, all at substantial costs, a basis for long-range planning is needed". Possibly the most controversial proposal in the entire report has to do with the relationship between VOA and RFE/RL: "...in our judgment, a US policy springing from a consideration of the future of US international broadcasting might usefully be based on something other than a complete and total separation of RFE/RL and the VOA. These could include the joint use of technical facilities, consolidated news collection, more efficient use of scarce language capabilities, and arrangements to coordinate broadcast time to the same audience". This amounts to a reversal of the conclusions of the Eisenhower Commission (1973), which found that the missions of VOA and RFE/RL were so different as to require separate organizations with separate oversight, thus creating the BIB. I'd be curious to hear how this GAO proposal has been received by the top echelons of the organizations involved...

Finally, the GAO recommends that RFE/RL study the possibility of satellite broadcasting. While admitting that this isn't technically feasible in the short run, there are so many advantages (immunity to sky-wave jamming, eliminating the political and economic costs of leasing terrestrial transmitter sites, savings in energy and hardware, etc.), that it should be explored as an option anyway.

Single copies of this 63-page report are available free on request from the US General Accounting Office, Document Handling and Information Services Facility, PO Box 6015, Gaithersburg, MD 20760 (make sure to include the report number and title given at the start of this article). While you're at it, you might send away for the BIB's Seventh Annual Report--1981, released last February, which includes some interesting details about RFE's response to the Polish crisis, Afghanistan, WARC, the Madrid Conference, etc. This is also free on request, from the Board for International Broadcasting, Suite 430, 1030 Fifteenth St. NW, Washington, DC 20005. Considering how central RFE/RL is to the relationship between the US and the USSR, it's amazing how little we know about what it's saying and doing.

(London Press Association, 26 Feb 81, via FBIS via R Horvitz) The BBC is to start a new broadcasting service to Afghanistan and step up its programme output to the Soviet Union. The moves are a result of Moscow's intervention in Afghanistan and because the Russians are still jamming BBC broadcasts to the Soviet Union. The new service to Afghanistan will go out in Pashto, one of the country's two official languages, and is aimed at a prospective audience of 16 to 18 million Pashto speakers, many of them along the northwest frontier of Pakistan. The Russian service will broadcast an extra 30 minutes of programming each day from the end of March. The increase will allow the BBC's Russian service to restructure transmissions to provide a continuous five-hour block of programmes from 7 pm to midnight, Moscow time. The increases in the BBC's broadcasts abroad was announced today by Mr. Douglas Muggeridge, managing director of the BBC's external services. He also announced that the BBC's Turkish service would be increased by 30 minutes to a total of 1½ hours a day to meet the greatly increased demand for information since the military takeover in Turkey. Mr. Muggeridge said the BBC already broadcasts in Farsi, the other /official/ language in Afghanistan, and has a large audience of listeners there. He hoped that the introduction of the new language service there would increase the BBC's audience in a critical part of the world. Talking about the increase of broadcasting hours to Russia, Mr. Muggeridge said: "Ever since the Soviet Union reimposed jamming of our Russian service we have been seeking ways to counteract its effects on our broadcasts." Mr. Muggeridge said that the jamming operation--which started soon after the labour unrest and upheavals in Poland--was costing the Russians many millions of pounds. "Research from America shows that we have an audience in Russia of about 12 to 13 million people but many of those obviously listen to the World Service in English as well and those are not being jammed." In the past year, said Mr. Muggeridge, the service had sustained a cut of just over 3 million pounds out of its capital expenditure and it continued to live under the constant threat of more cuts. While international broadcasts were expanding, the BBC, as Britain's voice, had to struggle even to maintain its existing service.

NEXT MONTH IN RIB -- A completely revised new edition of SHOWS WE LIKE--minute by minute schedule of recommended programs throughout the week. And a full report on this year's RIB SURVEY!

BROADCASTING IN NIGERIA

By Bruce D. Crawford

The Federal Republic of Nigeria embraces an area of 923,768 square kilometers, which is about the size of California, Nevada and Arizona combined. 72,217,000 people live in Nigeria, making it the most heavily populated country in Africa, and tenth largest in the world in terms of population. Only 25% of this population is literate, however.

As a result of civil war, Nigeria was split into twelve states in 1967, this number being increased to nineteen in 1976. As of March 1981, a recommendation has been made to further increase the number of states by eleven, bringing the total to thirty.

Nigeria is composed of more than 250 ethnic groups speaking some 178 languages. Principal languages are English, Yoruba, Hausa and Ibo. English is the official language of government and commercial life, and people of different ethnic backgrounds may communicate with each other in English.

Although Nigeria's population density is twice that of Africa as a whole and is greater than that of the United States, the vast majority of the population dwells in "rural" areas. Although less than twenty-percent of Nigerians live in cities, at least 24 cities have populations in excess of 100,000.

The joint conference of the National Assembly on revenue allocation came out with a new scheme for sharing the country's revenue in January. As proposed, 58.5% of funds would go to the federal government, 31.5% to the state governments and 10% to local governments. This is important to know since broadcasting in Nigeria is owned and operated by government entities. The press, on the other hand, is privately run.

The Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation was in charge of both radio and television until 1967. NBC was then split to form the Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria (FRCN) for radio, and the Nigerian Television Authority (NTA) for television. There has been some comment in the press calling for decentralization of TV services in order to make them more effective. However, authorities have reaffirmed that the federal government will continue to own and control TV stations in the states. Some stations that the NTA has acquired were formerly owned by state governments. Under the present government. a TV station could be owned by a state government provided that it followed the constitutional procedure on the issue. The decrees that set up FRCN, NTA, the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN), the press council and the yet-to-be-established Film Corporation are currently under review by the federal government and we may see state-owned TV stations in the near future. Clearly, though, all TV stations will be government-run, private enterprise being excluded from consideration. State governments currently involved in this issue include Borno and Bendel states. In another area, the Lagos state government has taken federal authorities to court over the withdrawal of TV channels and frequencies previously allocated to it. This action supposedly has something to do with the plan to move the federal capital from Lagos to Abuja.

Nigeria uses the CCIR "B" and "G" 625-line TV systems with PAL color. There are over thirty transmitters in the country, all operating on VHF. At least 450,000 TV sets are in use and this number is increasing at a phenomenal rate. Japanese-made sets are available and start at around $US 550 for a B/W set. TV sets can also be rented. TV programs begin in the mid to late afternoon and end around midnight. Most of the programs are of Nigerian origin. The few American programs shown are carried after 10:30 p.m., with the exception of one or two children's shows. TV reception quality remains poor in many areas, however, and retransmission stations are being built to help expand TV coverage. Communities like Ogoja, located in fringe areas of the Calabar stations, will be given booster stations in the near future. Satellite links for program distribution within Nigeria may not be far off. Even if these technical hurdles are overcome, many problems in programming need to be addressed. Due to Nigeria's fragmentation into diverse ethnic groups, cultural and language problems arise. In Bendel state, for example, viewers were able to watch NTV Benin, or could listen to Radio Bendel. Both these stations transmitted informative and cultural messages that were addressed to other ethnic groups. Bendelites felt left out and frustrated by constantly being bombarded by messages from another culture. The only response was for the Bendel state government to go out and buy a TV station to serve its residents. Hopefully, this idea will go along with the federal government's plans for TV expansion.

Similar dissemination problems exist for radio. Nigerian radio broadcasting is domestically distributed by mediumwaves, shortwaves and VHF-FM. In addition, the Voice of Nigeria can be heard on SW broadcasting to other parts of Africa and overseas in six languages. The Voice of Nigeria's transmitters are modern, powerful senders designed to further Nigeria's foreign policy goals. In domestic broadcasting, however, the Nigerian mass media practically cease to exist for people who cannot speak English, Hausa, Yoruba, or one of the common languages. They may listen just for the music, but may

THIS MONTH'S COVER -- via R Horvitz, from a colorful decal

understand little else. These people get their news from the village rather than through radio.

The tradition of the village announcer, or gong man, has survived in most communities. The gong man is like a town crier who goes into the village market square to announce news of far-away places to anyone within earshot. He either strikes a gong or beats a drum between the stories he has to tell. He dresses in a special costume. The gong man knows his culture, interprets his culture to fit the objectives of society and is respected and perceived as being highly authoritative and credible. Similarly, in many communities the gong man has been replaced by a radio receiver. People will gather around in a large group, fascinated by the latest gossip and news. In addition to hearing the gong man, many people go to the market square to fulfill an important social function. They can meet relatives and friends from different localities who have come to visit and congregate to hear news from distant places spoken in their own dialect. In fact, it has been suggested that these open markets compete strongly with conventional mass media as alternative sources of information. This isn't too suprising in a country that is mostly illiterate.

There are ways to cope with the language barriers. The FRCN in Benin, the capital of Bendel state, broadcasts its news bulletins in six local languages, and magazine request programs and commentaries are broadcast in an additional eight minor vernaculars. The hardest problem involved here is the translation of technical words into tribal languages. Another problem involves personnel. Since FRCN is a national organization, they tend to pull their newsreaders in from the state stations. What happens next is an incredible tangle of mispronounced names of unfamiliar people and places due to differences in dialect. In addition, "very many names of people were even pronounced differently in the same ethnic group, depending on what part of the ethnic group one comes from," comments Mr. George Bako, Director General of FRCN (emphasis added).

As far as radio programming in concerned, much emphasis is placed on musical entertainment. The most popular shows are the request programs. Listeners can get involved by writing (or getting someone to write) a request in to the broadcaster to play a song for them. It's not so much the music that matters, but the opportunity to attach a special message to the song which will be read out over the air. This enables listeners to communicate with loved ones who are far away. This is important since telephone service is not available to many people and Nigeria's system of roads and other transportation are not well developed.

News broadcasting in Nigeria has not been refined to please most people yet, and is considered lacking in time strategy, professionalism and quality. This may be due in part to the notion of "bad journalism" so often complained about in the Nigerian press. As Nigeria's internal telecommunication system improves, we may see greater promise for news broadcasting.

Nigerian broadcasting is in a state of rapid growth and change. As the federal capital moves from Lagos to Abuja, the possibility of new networks becomes more likely. FRCN is already proposing a second radio channel, FRCN-2, in each of the state capitals in order to devote more time to each state's main language. If Nigeria is divided into thirty states, the broadcasting balance will shift further and provide greater opportunity to serve more people in better ways. The future of the broad casting system depends upon the wisdom of the present government in making future decrees and figuring out how to squeeze them into the framework of the present consitution. Nigeria is likely to obey international agreements and directives from the International Telecommunications Union with regard to frequency management and usage, especially those discussed at the World Radio Administrative Conference in Geneva during 1979. We will look at Nigeria with interest to see how they manage to serve such an incredibly large and diverse audience as technology moves on in years ahead. If oil continues to be an essential product in the world market, Nigeria, as a major producer, will have plenty of money to build any kind of broadcasting system it desires. AR

AMBIGUITY IN NEWS (Richard Varron, NJ) There are two situations in which I have found newscasts, in general, ambiguous. The first situation arises in the evenings in the US when the newscaster refers to "yesterday," "today" or "tomorrow." While some newscasts are correct for the day, others aren't. What the listener is left with is not knowing which day is being referred to. The BBC, of late, seems to be including phrases like "today, Wednesday" when the day was otherwise ambiguous.

The other situation arises from words indicating "addition." For example, I heard several newscasts last spring which stated "another 5000 Soviet troops landed in Kabul," or "another five people were executed in Iran." Since I may have listened to two or three newscasts that day, I'd get the impression that 15000 troops had landed and fifteen people executed. While I've noticed the BBC giving totals ("This brings the total strength up to 100000"), many stations in both the US and overseas do not. I heard a headline from Radio Moscow which stated that "another two cosmonauts" had been launched. Knowing that they have had a number of crews up at the same time, I wasn't too suprised when I heard later in the day that "another two" had been launched.

The worst offender in this matter is the quick headlines on TV (prime-time news briefs). By contrast, most SW newscasts do a fairly good job at clarifying "addition" words. In the examples I mentioned, it would make the story clearer if the word "another" were removed. While this may seem like a minor point, it tends to distract the listener's attention from the theme of the report. AR

SW BROADCASTING AND THE NEWS (Rufus Jordan, PA) There are three comments I'd like to make concerning the news on SW radio. First, the "News in English" section in February's RIB is an excellent feature and second, I find myself in general agreement with David Crichton's eight-point checklist for evaluating news programs (cf. Feb. RIB, p.27), however, I don't expecially feel that wit and being "entertaining" are particularly important to quality news programming. In fact, they often hinder or are substitutions for quality. Last, but not least, I'd like to state that in this writer's opinion the BBC's "Radio Newsreel," which I believe is now in its 40th year, represents the epitome of what a news program can and ought to be. I generally tune in the 1500-1515 GMT transmission on 21710, or listen to it the same day on my local fine arts station, WQED (89.3 MHz), daily at noon EST. This program certainly complies with Mr. Crichton's evaluative criteria, thankfully sans wit and entertainment, plus providing the listener with important background information which helps to place news items in some kind of meaningful context. This highly informative journalistic effort exemplifies integrity and objectivity, with professionalism being the program's norm. AR

(Richard Stoller, NY) I thought that Oliver Goonawardena's comments under UKOGBANI in RIB-47, p.28, were very revealing as concerns the inherent bias of any news program. He charges that BBCWS newscasts are heavily laden with European news, to the exclusion of what are arguably more important Asian events. This is indeed the case sometimes, but it is impossible to find a situation that will please everyone, for obvious reasons. There isn't any objective way to grade news stories according to newsworthiness. When there is a story about some disaster--say, 30,000,000 people were killed in an industrial accident in Peking today; no details were available--it will usually end up on the news, but how relevant is it? The hardest reality is that this news doesn't concern us except on a transient emotional level (i.e., "That's terrible!"). But the visit of the Yemeni foreign minister to Saudi Arabia might signal some diplomatic initiative that could send the price of oil rocketing, or embroil the world in another war, and so on. Polemics are so intertwined with actions in this world that someone's statements are newsworthy even though they're totally predictable. Brezhnev can say he wishes peace to the world a dozen times, and each time it will make the BBC headlines, because he's got 4-million troops, and if he doesn't want peace, wow, are we in trouble. So much for that point.

Then there are any observer's inevitable geographical bias. People can't relate to news outside of their region as much as they do to "local" items. By definition, the only one who can have enough of a world-view to "objectively" order items from all over the world is the Godhead, and to my knowledge he has better things to do. We mere mortals are doomed to our own limited view, and despite his laudable intentions, Goonawardena is in this mess like everybody else. He mentions Radio Australia as a source of world news the BBC should learn something from, but I personally would never count on RA as a comprehensive news source. To my mind, it has a very great bias towards Asian/Pacific news. This is fairly evident in my view (insofar as anything is evident--see above,if you dare). Look at the preponderance of Indonesian and PNG news, trade agreements, ASEAN Tapestries (sic) Ministers summits, etc. The Australasian/Asian area is more at home on RA than the BBC, but there's no way RA, or any other station, can be passed off as a station to mimic. Actually, after several years, I find that the least geographically biased station in the World News market is the VOA. I'd be interested to know what others think. (Typed/edited by Andy Robins).

(Ed Stone, NY) I think it's interesting to note that unlike many subjects, there is little agreement among SWBC commentators about Russian motives in Afghanistan, or even the state of the struggle there. A Radio Nederland commentator believes the Russians moved into the country because they thought the US would invade Iran! He also remarked that the Russians are in a no-win, heavy loss, situation. VOA and AFRTS (domestic US) opinion more sober; they believe the Russians are in the country to stay, despite higher casualties than they had anticipated. Their motives were a fear of Moslem insurgency on their borders, a grab for Middle East oil and a militaristic policy of expansion. They would do it again, given a chance.

I find this disagreement a bit disconcerting. You would think that after more than fifty years of dealings with the Soviet Communist state there would be at least some agreement on a matter as important as this. It is still a dark subject, and I'm not sure whether it is a reflection on the Russian character or SWBC/international differences. No wonder NATO is in trouble. (Typed by Robins)

(More from Ed Stone) VOA recently had a program on the different views of the role of the press in Western nations versus Africa. The Africans complain, with some justification, that the only news the West reports are disasters and negative developments. The Africans wish to use their press to uplift and help develop their countries. However, the West charges that this often lapses in govt. censorship and control of the press. I'd submit that there is already an established function in the West that the Third World countries can use to accomplish their objectives without gagging the press: the public relations function. Government relations PR provides vital functions. The African nations could employ writers to seek out and place in the media stories of a positive nature. If professionally done and made interesting, they'd be placed--the same as in this country. It would

provide a service for both the developing countries and those in the West in rounding out our information about the Third World; it could also encourage Third World press freedoms. Then this whole argument about free--vs.--controlled press in developing countries would be moot. (Typed by Robins)

THE VALUE OF PRESS REVIEWS (Richard Varron, Wayne NJ)

Press reviews are easy to do as stated in Elliott's article; the question is whether they raise 'new, useful or interesting content'. Living in one of the most linguistically diverse areas of the U.S., I am in a very good position to obtain many foreign newspapers, but the cost in time and money, not to mention getting translations, makes this prohibitive. Even if I went out to buy a foreign paper, it may be a day old. By listening to SW, I can get press reviews which come in at the same time the paper is published, such as on the BBC at 0209 GMT.

While one cannot argue with the point that SW provides the quickest means with which to disseminate press reviews, one can debate their usefulness. If we exclude government-controlled papers, we are left with a medium which has the ability to mold public opinion in an open society. In the past nine months, I have been paying a lot of attention to the free press in regard to events in southwest Asia. Since I initially had no idea of the views in countries like Sweden, Finland, Britain, West Germany, Austria, Spain, Portugal; not to mention the countries serving on the UN Security Council, I tuned in to the press reviews to see how the print media were telling these stories to their people. Of particular interest were the views of the Left and Communist papers in Western Europe: did they approve of the events in Afghanistan or were they more afraid? Would the press of the Right come out in full support of the boycott or would they back the strong economic interests? Would the papers of the Center back the humanitarian concerns of the U.S. or would they declare that the ends of a revolution justify the means? How would they change in time as events unfolded?

But are press reviews interesting? That question is up to each listener. For those not interested in world affairs, probably not. Yet, even for someone interested in world affairs, the press reviews can be boring. Can they be made more interesting? I think so. First, for each country, we can pick three papers which reflect the spectrum of opinion in that country. For the U.K., I have a mental trio of The Morning Star, Guardian and Express. In other countries I have Le Monde, Toronto Globe & Mail, L'Humanité, Svenska Dagblatter, etc. Next, we observe how a story is treated among the three papers in the group and in other countries. The key to making the most use is to focus in on one single event. Lastly, we can observe how a story changes with time.

Among the stories I have been following over the past few months has been the E E.C. budget debate in which the U.K. wanted certain adjustments made. When I started to listen, I had no bias in either direction. By listening to the press reviews of the BBC, RFI and DW, I got a sense of how this story was being presented to their people. It also gave me insight as to the amount of leeway the governments of these countries had. And it gave me an insight into the workings of the E.E.C. Could not the news reports give this to me? No. In the news, one only gets the facts and the reactions of leaders expressed in diplomatic niceties. It is only in the press reviess that one gets the gut, often blunt reactions. The level of satire makes some editorials amusing as well as informative. Some of the best copy on SW comes in the form of editorials.

I hope I have presented an alternate view to Elliott's of how a listener can respond positively to press reviews.

NEWS IS THE BOTTOM LINE (Beverly Slomka, NY) If by nothing else, one has only to view the Emery Air Express commercial on TV to realize that news is the bottom line in the shortwave business. In this commercial, which has been showing in NYC for about a month now, an East European family is listening to results of the US election from VOA when the transmitter suddenly shuts down. Emery comes to the rescue by flying a needed part to the transmitter site /which they identify as Detroit!!! ar/ and the family is once again gathering around the radio listening to the much-wanted information on the election.

Besides this, however, I've noticed that in the past few years since the situations in Iran and Afghanistan escalated, hardly a day goes by without mention of what Radio This or Radio That had to say. Iran and Iraq have fought a good deal of their war via radio, Moscow nearly dealt a blow to the final hostage negotiations in January through a statement on radio, and the recent bombing of Radio Free Europe is certainly an indication of something.

Based on this, regardless of the variety we would all like to see put into SW programming and the entertainment we wish to get from it, news and the basic information we get from countries and about countries is really the bottom line. In order to get such information, there is no way I can think of to pick up so many different views and so much information so effectively than SW radio. Without leaving one's home, one can get an earful of what another country is like. You can get the news straight from that country, or you can perhaps get a better (or different) perspective from listening to what other countries have to say. You can also hear a lot between the lines.

The last few years have been violent and turbulent. However, they have also been very exciting years from a shortwave standpoint. In such a time, everyone wants to be heard. I think by listening to SW we have the best seat from which to view such events. AR

EQUIPMENT FORUM

ELECTRONIC SECRETARY FOR SWL'S (Ed Stone, NY) I believe that most timers will only turn your radio on and off once or twice. Many times I've started some other task when there was nothing to listen to at the moment, and missed some broadcast at a later time that I did want to hear. Sometimes I set my clock for the broadcast I don't want to miss, but constantly doing that can be tiresome.

Looking through the recent Hammacher Schlemmer gifts catalogue, I came across their Electronic Time Trac Secretary. The clock has a chip that allows you to program it "for up to 30 appointments, e.g., 12 daily appointments, 15 future appointments and 3 alarms," according to the HS catalogue. Also, it has an elapsed time counter. It won't turn appliances on and off, but it will remind you. Hammacher Schlemmer is a gadget store known for unique items and high prices. This gizmo is #N3306 and will set you back $39.95. For a cataloque, ask for Gifts Catalogue, Hammacher Schlemmer, 145 E. 57th Street, New York, NY 10022. If this doesn't grab you, you can buy their $12,500 satellite TV reception system...on a whim, of course. AR

BIG EARS DON'T HELP WHEN YOU WANT TO HEAR A MOUSE IN A BOILER FACTORY (Stone) Like a lot of other SWLs, I'm fascinated by different types of antennas. I cherish, in the depths of my soul at two in the morning, a belief that I will not admit to at any other time. That belief: with the proper antenna...I can hear anything...anywhere! Cook Islands...Ulan Bator...Radio Epsilon Eridani (a nearby star and a good candidate for intelligent life)! Among some hams and SWLs, the quest for the Perfect Antenna has quasi-religious connotations similar to the medieval search for the legendary Holy Grail. There is a mystique about the whole thing that gives it a life of its own. The Quest has the lure of a mythological Siren.

Have I succumbed? Yep. Every couple of months I'm back up on the roof (don't tell my landlord!) stringing another longwire or two. They keep getting longer and longer, because maybe if I make it really long--like a Beverage--I'll squeeze another few dB out of the air.

After spending all that time on the roof, in peril of life and lease, I wait for a good day, put on the headphones and hunker down in front of my receiver to see what great DX my new antennas can pick up. I'm getting a beautifully clear signal from NHK (a good sign) when someone turns on their blender...or razor...or vacuum cleaner. Grrr'*#!!%$#*"!!!!

Out I run to the local Radio Shack. "Gimme twelve of your best AC line filters, or whatever," and back I fly to hook them up. But it doesn't do any good. It never does. With all my sophisticated equipment, ARRL books, antenna theory and hard work, I'm still at the mercy of the tennant in 2-B who has a sudden whim for cumquat purée. Down with radio noise pollution! AR

FOR THE DISCRIMINATING LISTENER: BE (PRE)SELECTIVE (Stone) Although I believe it to be overpriced--the way most SW equipment is these days--I've been using the MFJ-1040 Deluxe Preselector II for a few months now, and am generally pleased with it. The unit is a high gain RF amplifier covering 1-54 MHz in four bands. Push buttons on the front panel enable you to select from two receivers and two antenna inputs. There is an automatic provision for bypassing the amplifier when using a transceiver in the transmit mode. The 1040 can handle up to 350 watts PEP, and is powered by 9-18 VDC. An AC adapter is extra.

I've had some problems with the input jack from the adapter. It shorts out very easily, and is rather flimsy. I would prefer to see them use a miniature jack rather than the subminiature 2.5 mm plug that is connected to the AC adapter. One of these days I'll have to replace the plug.

The finish on the unit is amateur radio style--that is, it looks like a homebrew piece of equipment. Also, don't be suprised if your unit looks a bit different from the picture in the owner's manual. My unit is labeled "104C" instead of "1040," and looks a bit different. The tune knob, for example, is designed to rotate 180-degrees and not 360, as in the owner's manual photo.

There is a variable delay control for use with transceivers, a gain control, a 20 dB attenuation switch, bandswitch, tuning knob, on/off push button and buttons for the two receivers and antennas mentioned above. There is a red pilot lamp that burns brightly when the 1040 is on. When the unit is off, the circuit is bypassed. Connections are by phono jacks or SO-239 coax connectors.

About performance. First, let me say that I'm not primarily a DXer. However, I find myself using the unit constantly, and would be unhappy if I had to do without it. It can make an enormous difference, particularly with weak signals above approximately 15 MHz on my unmodified FRG-7. My antennas are two parallel longwires of 60 and 120' (approximate), and can be used singlely or together via a simple homebrew switchbox. The receiver is grounded to my telephone (seems to be a good ground, tho it turns into an "AM radio" RF pickup).

When I do DX, it is mostly SSB utilities. For these signals the preselector is a great help. Ham SSB is also greatly helped at times. Oddly enough, strong but fluttery or fading broadcast signals can also be improved. The unit seems to "iron them out" (probably subjective) and increase intelligibility. My Frog is troubled by spurious signals on the lower frequencies. Although image rejection

is supposed to be a preselector's raison d'être, I've found little or no improvement in eliminating these lower-band birdies.

Tuning is very sharp and can mean the difference between understanding a signal or not. To give you an idea of performance, the unit is most useful to me with those signals so weak that electrical noise at my QTH can completely wipe them out. When the noise dies I can then cut in the preselector and can comprehend these very weak signals. Don't try to do without an AC adapter; it's too inconvenient. I think that the adapter should not be an extra charge to the consumer for this reason.

I previously owned another MFJ unit, their SSB/CW filter. I was forced to return it because it produced a very painful transient "click" in my Yaesu phones when switched on, at all volume settings I also felt that for my purposes it did not provide cost-effective signal improvement.

The 1040 has no such power surge circuit noise problem. It appears to be a useful accessory for squeezing the best possible performance out of your receiver. My major objection is the cost: $99.95 plus shipping, and an extra $8 plus for the AC adapter. That's a lot of bucks. The problem is that there's not much around for less. On the positive side, MFJ seems to be a good company to do business with. They've accepted returns and given refunds (provided you notify them properly) with no complaint. The warranty is not voided if you repair the unit yourself, and there is that 30-day trial period during which you can return the unit for a refund, less shipping. AR

RADIO EQUIPMENT TODAY: HOW BIG A BANG FOR YOUR BUCK? (Ed Stone, NY) In a fascinating article in CQ magazine, "The Effect of Inflation on Amateur Radio Equipment Prices," April 1981 issue, Neil D. Friedman (N3DF) argues that amateur radio equipment today is just as good a bargain as it ever was,if not better. He came to that conclusion after multiplying the original selling price of equipment by the "1980 value" of the dollar when the equipment went on sale. This adjusts for the changing value of the dollar over the years. For example, his chart shows that one dollar in 1947 could buy as much as $3.63 could in 1980, per U.S. Dept. of Labor statistics. From this he figures the multiplier he needs to adjust for inflation.

Using these figures, he found that more features are available today for the same or less money. Is this true for SW listening gear also? I've taken the original selling price (list) of the equipment below from the 1980 NASWA DX Guide and applied Friedman's multiplier. The result is what you would have paid for the same set if it had come out in 1980 (list price, no discount). See the article to price your own old receiver; it's a simple calculation.

Drake SSR-1 ($461.50); Allied SX-190 ($500); Hammarlund HQ-200 ($552.50); Barlow-Wadley XCR-30 ($369.20); Heath GR-54 ($188.10). AR

WWV PROPAGATION REPORTS & DXing (Maxfield Greenwood, ME) For 18 months I've been recording WWV's solar and geomagnetic rating 18minutes past the hour when I get exceptional openings on 60 meters and lower, or when the situation is pathetic on 60m or lower. I also have recorded WWV's forecasts when I get a splendid catch 60m and lower. But when, in general, the conditions are terrible, that's when I note one pearl glistening in a sea of mud.

Here are my findings: 1. The solar flux and A & K numbers the past year have been so basically steady--that is, S.F. high, A low and K low--that they've been a relative constant, and as such have not proven worthwhile predictors for 60m and down. However, as an addendum, the higher the S.F., the more spectacular nighttime SWL or DXing is from 19m through 13m. Tahiti on 15170 and the Aussie stations will bang in during a rising high S.F.

But back to 60m and below, and with some relevancy, to be sure, to 41 and 49m but I haven't concentrated on this. 2. If the solar activity is low and the geomagnetic field quiet, the greater the chance for exceptional openings on 60m and down, and I think also on the 41 and 49m bands as Emissora Regional do Lobito, 1 kW in Angola, logged three times by me, always during a S.A. low/G.F. quiet.

3. Very unpredictable but marvelous catches can occur when solar activity is active and the geomagnetic field is unsettled to slightly unsettled. But here you must scan and scan, looking for a) a quiet trough and a "freak" skip (there are no freak skips--there is a reason, be it layer warping or whatever) and, b) I had a simply spectacular logging of Iceland where, after many checks at 1900 GMT to 2000 GMT had gotten me nowhere. Suddenly, there it was at one 1910 tune-in at a 43443+ level. All of the USA and much of Canada and all of Latin America were in light, but Iceland was in the dark. WWV revealed the S.A. to be active with solar storms possible. It is my belief that it's possible the RTTY and utes and whatnot that bury Iceland on its 12175 kHz frequency were in a solar storm blackout, and viola! Iceland was unblocked and smashing into my S.E. Pennsylvania QTH.

4. For the low SW bands I have found the WWV ratings, or predictions, of solar activity low to moderate, the geomagnetic field to be unsettled, to be a death note to DXing these bands. However, I have been making my notes separate from LAm propagation, which I have yet to study.

5. These findings are merely preliminary and are subject to change. AR

ICF-2001 FAILS (G. Sharman, CA) The 1 and 5 keys on my ICF-2001 keyboard failed in the 8th month of use. No replacement parts available this side of Japan. Better luck to you! gh: My Ø key is getting temperamental. This may persuade us to minimize needless frequency jumping....

OF SATELLITES AND MICROPROCESSORS by Lamont M. Jensen

In the past few months, developments in satellites and microprocessors have once again displayed a definite impact on the field of communications. Implications for the future portend an almost unlimited range of possibilities, some of them quite far beyond our dreams of today.

SATELLITES proved their effectiveness in communications with the first Intelsat, which pioneered intercontinental "wireless" via space. The current proliferation of domestic satellites, however, has almost overshadowed the Intelsat. The "space stations" promoted by Western Union, RCA and others, carry an increasing traffic of television, radio, and data in many forms, while the construction of earth stations to tap these highways of information is being urgently pushed throughout the nation.

Early in 1981, United Press International began satellite delivery of its newswire and audio services to a rapidly growing number of TV and radio stations, via the Westar III satellite. Large corporations and others who have been using groups of dedicated long distance telephone circuits to fill their needs, are looking to shift their traffic to satellites because of impending heavy rate increases for landline circuits. And now, with direct satellite-to-home TV reception becoming more widespread, proposals are being made for "super-networks" to supply programs to the 25 or 30 channels that could receive shows and transmit them directly to homes.

MICROPROCESSORS, the tiny "computers on a chip", first gained wide usage in electronic games and as engine-performance controllers in automobiles. They are used by the broadcasting industry as controllers in "studio automation" devices, permitting stations to operate nearly automatically. Their first visible use in receivers has appeared only recently, as tuning controllers in such shortwave sets as the Racal RA6790 commercial receiver and in the Sony ICF-2001 portable. In TV sets they are used in tuning and remote control circuits. This, undoubtedly, anticipates the day not too far-distant when nearly all receivers, except for the most inexpensive, will feature this or even more sophisticated tuning systems.

Although microprocessors seem to be flourishing today, improvements now under way or recently announced presage an ever more rosy future. One of the most promising is the announcement by Intel of their 32-bit "supercomputer on a chip". This is being offered as not merely another circuit component, but with a modern Operating System which provides many of the capabilities formerly found only in huge computers used in scientific laboratories or by large corporations. This, and similar projects now being pushed by other manufacturers, would seem to remove all limitations for the future. However, those who are acquainted with computer usage realize that the effective use of these devices depends upon the speed and efficiency with which they may be programmed to accomplish specific objectives. As computers become more complex and their numbers increase, it is becoming more and more difficult to find qualified programmers for new installations.

Another new development now being tested would, if it fulfills all the hopes of its backers, break this programming bottleneck by trimming the work to as low as 40% to 20% of what it is now. A "software tool" named "Pro" by its inventor, Sushil Garg, originally from New Delhi, India, it is being evaluated by several computer manufacturers as a possible offering to their customers. Most who have seen it are extremely enthusiastic, claiming that a first-time computer user can be taught to use it within a few weeks. One person said, "Our programming today is in the horse and buggy era. With this, you jump past the automobile and go directly to interplanetary rocket ships. It's fantastic! This will do away with programmers almost completely."

SO WHAT does all of this have to do with communications in the future? Imagine a "super-computer on a chip" in every household, as common as are the auto and TV today. Provide this device with an operating system which allows even a child to prepare new functions for it. Again, imagine all of these millions of home computers talking to one another over satellite "switchboards in the sky", exchanging data, programs, and facsimile; accessing central libraries of educational and recreational material; all with two-way or multipoint response throughout the nation and around the world. Today, we are just on the threshold of this exciting world of the future!

FUN HOUSE MIRRORS AND THE FUTURE OF SHORTWAVE LISTENING (Ed Stone, NY) I enjoyed Richard Mansfield's article on "perfect replication." I have heard these arguments before. Many of them weave their way through works such as Asimov's I, Robot, and a book on artificial intelligence that I read years ago, Intelligent Life in the Universe, by Ordway and Tead, I believe.

As I look back on all the futurists' predictions--from Fritz Lang's early 20th century movie "Metropolis," through countless World's Fairs and untold quantities of science fiction I've read--it seems clear to me that predictions such as these are a rough guide at best. The World's Fairs of the Thirties predicted personal hovercraft, protein pills instead of food, disposable clothing, stratospheric skyscrapers with sweeping connecting ramps, and so forth. Yes, we have some of these, but visions of the future always seem in retrospect like fun house mirror distortions, with many qualities that dreams have. Things predicted never emerge in quite the way we thought they would. Social or other factors seem to have more of an influence on technology than technological innovations do on

society; technology is not the all-powerful determining factor we thought it would be. The extremes of prediction and the dramatic tend to smooth out, while what we had regarded as the mundane and mediocre emerge as more important determinants of the course of events.

The Eighties are a case in point. We are not all hiding in our bomb shelters from radioactive rain as we thought we might be back in the early Sixties. Nor have we set up colonies on Mars and hydroponic gardens on the moon, though both are technically feasible. Instead, we worry about the price of gas for our cars (!), new religious revivals in the Mideast (years after Nietzsche pronounced religion kaput) and international terrorism. If any future predictions have a canny accuracy, they are the ones involving social and mundane elements. A long time ago I read John Brunner's Stand on Zanzibar, and never cease to amaze how accurately that "social" SF novel predicted our real emerging problems: food shortages, turmoil in underdeveloped areas, kidnapping, bombings, and the like.

Therefore, while technological revolutions definitely have their impact, they never seem to occur in quite the manner or magnitude we expect. So I have a hunch that, contrary to Richard Mansfield's apprehensions, shortwave listening and the humans who do it will be around for quite some time to come, computers or no. AR

ESPERANTO, THAT DUSTY DREAM FORGOTTEN (Maxfield Greenwood, ME) The more I listen to SW radio, the more I contemplate the curse of the Tower of Babel, for as that poignant Bible tale goes, man in his primitive theologic state thought that he could ascend to heaven by building a tower into the sky. God, so annoyed by this foolishness, then put the curse of making one-tongued man into a people of a thousand tongues (languages)--and thus our word "babel," or the verb "to babble," from the name of the tower.

As I listen to SW radio I'm immersed rather pathetically in this curse of Babel, for even though I am anxiously desiring to know what is bombarding my audio senses--that is, to know it's meaning, it's content. But alas, except for my movement into understanding Spanish, all these different tongues just amount to a maddening babel. A wall, this once tower has become. It stands between me and my brothers and sisters of other "worlds."

One notes here and there certain large international broadcasters transmitting programs in Esperanto. I don't remember this fine idealist who had this great dream that all mankind would have a common second language: Esperanto--a language for all people. All it required was for the League of Nations, and then the United Nations, to pass a decree that all students in the various countries study and learn to speak Esperanto. So simple, so straightforward, and the destroyer of the "Curse of Babel." But no, of course not; since when do nations ever work in cohesion for a common agreement that would greatly help break the barriers that stand between our fellow man, the single one, Mankind.

So we remain a world of Babel, and Esperanto, after many, many years, remains but the same ineffectual dream, wandering around in the back corridors of a babeling and fragmented world--faltering, yes a faltering world. And now man reaches into space seeking, in cold, stiff computer-speak, the mechanisms that created and move the Wheel. This too, I believe, is our modern Tower of Babel. For as Kurt Vonnegut wrote in Sirens of Titan, "Man reached more and more to the stars for truth, forgetting ever that the truth was within."

But science could help me. In my million-dollar dream shack I would have a language computer perfected to translate audio sounds of varied languages into a rapid-fire printout in English. I would just tune in an African QTH with a Swahili broadcast, feed the audio into my computer, and watch sheets of paper slide out with English translations. Ah, dream on fool... AR

PUBLICITY: A DISSENTING OPINION (Herbert S. Wolfson, NY) I know that the popular idea among DXers is to promote the spread of the hobby and to applaud the development of new technology to make SWL available to the masses. I now join a minority of one by saying I don't think it's such a good idea. Think about it. Do you really want DXing to become the "in" hobby? Look at what happened to CB. Wolfson's Law of Media Hype states: When something is popularized, it tends to become bastardized. I may be accused of elitism for this next statement, but I happen to enjoy the fact that the SWL community is a small, friendly community where everybody knows everybody else, or at least recognizes their names. SW broadcasters can develop close, intimate relationships with listeners, something they would be unable to do were their listenership to increase ten or a hundred-fold. Stations that presently answer every letter (HCJB, Cairo, etc.) would either have to expand their staffs (hard to do in this age of economic difficulties) or drop this kindness. Stations, in their eternal competition for listeners, would have to appeal to the lowest common denominator, and many of today's most respected shows (e.g., HITCHHIKERS GUIDE TO THE GALAXY) simply would not appeal to the faddists. We could look forward to metamorphoses like that of Radio Australia on a grand scale. There would be an explosion of stations like WRNO also, carrying commercials. These might be based in the Caribbean so as to beam programs into the US, avoiding FCC control. If Dave Hinckley is worried about WRNO, well multiply that problem by five or ten. I'm sure that I am calling the wrath of RIBbies upon my head by writing this, but I invite anyone who disagrees with me to attempt to allay my fears. After all, this is one of those cases where I'd like to be wrong. AR

SPREADING THE WORD (Ed Stone, NY) Max Greenwood is right about the necessity of publicising the hobby, although small numbers of enthusiasts sometimes guarantee better quality (equipment manufactured, etc.) than large numbers. Nothing could ruin an appeal for more listeners than a glut of rinky-dink receivers on the market, put there by every Tom, Dick and Harry wanting to cash-in on a hobby becoming popular. SW to me was for many years that funny band on your portable that never received anything, so I stayed away from it. Perhaps higher quality today augurs better.

I can't seem to locate it, but I remember that in one ARRL publication advice was given to hams on setting up an exhibit at their local shopping center to promote amateur radio. Seems to me this same thing can be done for SW; center managers are probably looking for things to help them publicise their shopping complex. Perhaps they'd even print up announcements for the exhibit! Set up a table, receiver, antenna, bring some skeds and invite the public to "listen to Europe...Asia...Canada..." Don't leave your set unattended, however! Possibilities are endless, and the shopping center owner is happy--if your exhibit draws potential customers into the center. Perhaps mimeographed flyers announcing the event would help. Banks seem very big now on this exhibit-attraction thing; they are competing fiercely for customers. Maybe they'd be a good bet if you can work up some theme that covers both banking and SW that's catchy. I've seen banks have blood pressure testing tables, brass bands and so forth. Why not SW too? Perhaps an international bank could run an "International Week" to promote their services. Listen to SW, get a souvenir English halfpenny, etc. Hopefully,you would be paid for your promotional activities since they benefit the bank. If you live in an area that has been settled by a certain ethnic group or groups, and there are strong ties or feeling about the home country, you could post the times to come listen to the "old country's" SW outlet. Perhaps this might be done as part of a Week of Pride for that particular country.

On a mass scale, I have not seen manufacturers do much to really try and develop a market in this country for SW. If packaged right, it might work. I'd try to "get into" the market first by advertising in the hi-fi magazines and outlets, getting hi-fi dealers to carry SW equipment. Then perhaps the transition from one band (FM) to another (above 1600 kHz) would be easier for the consumer. But hi-fi dealers would know little about SW--caveat emptor. I wonder if any manufacturers have done any market research to gauge the potential of this market. AM and FM listeners, CBers and TV viewers are legion in this country. Only one band remains and sooner or later people are going to discover it (TV ads would be a big help). When that day comes, I'll be a little bit sad, though. It is kinda nice now having a box that's my own little pipeline to spots all over the globe that my neighbors don't know about. It makes the hobby a little bit special. (Typed by Andy Robins).

(John Pascoe, WA) I agree with Maxfield Greenwood's idea that SW listening must be publicised. Looking back on my early experiences with SW, I must also say it was the result of an accident. As Max pointed out, the amateurs are very well organised in publicising their hobby. After all, the US Air Force wouldn't have hesitated about operating in the ham bands if the ARRL didn't exist. But why didn't our umbrella organisation have enough power or influence to keep the OTH-B radar out of our bands? I believe the answer is money. ANARC is not as adequately funded as the ARRL. Even the powers in the government had no idea what SW listening is--they thought it was part of ham radio!

My solution to the SWL-ignorant society (the US) is to create a Promotional Branch of ANARC, devoted entirely to "spreading the word." Funding for this will come from a $2 increase in all ANARC club publications, i.e. SPEEDX, FRENDX, etc. My idea in using this money is to create a simple brochure explaining SW listening, DXing, QSL hunting, etc. The brochure could be distributed in stores that sell SW equipment, hopefully all Radio Shacks included. Another idea is funding this promotional effort in the same way HAP raises money for its activities. Of course, we could also use radio advertising, but I think it would be a misuse of scarce resources (money). Either way, if we are going to do something about publicising SW, it should be under the direction of ANARC! We SW listeners and DXers are associated with many clubs, and I sincerely believe ANARC should be our rallying point in this and most matters.

As a former beginning SW listener, it's hard when you purchase your first receiver and don't really know much more than what's written in the owner's manual about SW. If the address of ANARC, or any SW club, were given in the manual, it would really help the beginner. I think action should be taken with the manufacturers to establish this. After all, including ANARC's address would help keep people interested in SW and stimulate sales in the long run. The brochure could also be a joint venture with the receiver industry, to the benefit of both parties. My thinking in all of what I've written is that many will have different opinions on publicising SW, so let's hear 'em!AR

THIS PAGE and many others in this issue with "AR" on them have been typed/edited by Andy Robins. I'm sure my appreciation for his fine work is echoed by all subscRIBers! Now, all subscRIBers, please note: PLEASE read the SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION (if nothing else) on the back cover. People are still sending change of address notices without the vital code number on the mailing label--and such notices cannot and will not be processed! Due to certain outdated publicity, many other people are subscribing at the old rate of $12, which was replaced January 1 by $15. No need to send the extra $3--subs @ $12 have been prorated for 9 issues instead of 12, so don't be surprised--early expiry

SPREADING THE WORD (Joseph M. Szulik, PA) On reading an article in the Feb. '81 RIB entitled "Publicizing Shortwave" by Maxfield Greenwood, I have thought about how this might be done in a practical manner. My idea is to use an idea that has been put into practice by deeply religious people for many years. These people leave small pamphlets or tracts in public places about their beliefs. I have seen these tracts have success in several instances, and if this method of informing the public about the existence of SW were used we may gain our own converts!

With a little help from some friends I've composed a version of what I have been writing about:

"Shortwave radio programs are enjoyable, informative and free from commercials. There is a large band of radio frequencies that exist between the AM and FM radio spectrums which is known as 'Shortwave.' Many radio stations broadcast in English over these frequencies from every country in the world. Shortwave radio gives a true picture of what is going on in the rest of the world, untainted by local prejudices. The American people are very isolated and naive about the rest of the world. SW radio is one good way to get back in touch with current events. SW listening does not require a license as do CB or Ham radio operation. All that is required is the price of a SW receiver. Shortwave receivers may be purchased from Radio Shack stores, or write for free catalogs from Gilfer Associates, P.O. Box 239, Park Ridge, NJ 07656, or Radio West, 2015 S. Escondido Blvd., Escondido, CA 92025. Newspapers sometimes have used receivers in the want ads."

I'm sure that anyone with any writing skills can develop a much better version of the idea. I've written mine with a size limitation in mind so great that much generalization was necessary to cram in as much information as possible while still being of interest to the average citizen uninformed about SW.

Where these tracts are placed is important. Much care must be exercised since we don't want to be thought of as slobs or nuisances because of tracts ending up on the floors of public places as litter. Negative publicity would not do at all! Placing them in books at the public library would be good, since a thin strip of paper won't damage the books or be thrown around. Restrooms are okay--scattered paper usually doesn't get past the door. I like to carry some thumb tacks with me so I can stick them up on public bulletin boards, with permission.

One thing I find very strange: I've never met another SWLer face-to-face! Eighteen million of the 220 million people in this country listen to SW. That's only a 12.2-to-1 ratio. I should have met some, but I never have. How very odd! AR

(Kevin C. Malin, WA) In regard to Maxfield Greenwood's article in the Feb. issue of RIB "Publicising Shortwave," I must state that any attempt to organise, influence or govern broadcasting on SW frequencies is impracticable at this point in time. There is a sharp difference between the Amateur and CB radio services and SW radio. The Amateur Radio Service is a radio communication service of self-training, intercommunication and technical investigation carried on by amateur radio operators and it was created exclusively for radio hobbyists with limited governmental influence and intervention in transmission content. The Citizen's Band Radio Service is similar to amateur radio in that it is a hobby for radio enthusiasts, but it's less formal in transmission content and is restricted in frequency assignments and output power. SW broadcasting, on the other hand, is a hobby of SW listeners, but is a job or duty to SW broadcasters. In other words, SW is a medium through which governmental powers can broadcast their political propaganda to specialised target areas throughout the world. All SW listeners do not have any business in regulating SW broadcasts and protecting SW broadcasting frequencies. If another service intrudes upon frequencies used by SW broadcasters, in a legal or illegal manner as defined by government regulations, SW listeners should have no power to influence or modify such activities. Also, if a government is broadcasting certain material on SW which violates one's beliefs or is upsetting to one's moral attitudes, the listener should just spin the tuning dial and not seek any avenues of modification or influence. However, if one has a comment or criticism, positive or negative, that person should feel free to voice his or her opinion to any group or constituency.

Now, to elaborate on the SW broadcasting situation in general, and especially in the US, it's my opinion that any person or group should be allowed to transmit any type of message or sound as long as it doesn't endanger the national security and doesn't defame the character of one's government. In the US we are supposed to have a Constitution which guarantees freedom of speech and expression, and also a lifestyle that enhances capitalism and free enterprise. Let's turn the SW bands over to private citizens, businesses and nonprofit organisations, and terminate broadcasting by government on SW frequencies entirely. Let's condemn the government bureaucracy now evident on the SW bands and replace this disease with people who believe in the American way of life and who support the US Constitution and the freedoms it guarantees. If this situation surfaces, I'd be in full agreement with the comments made by Maxfield Greenwood. I therefore encourage all Americans who believe in the US Constitution to write their congressmen in an effort to change the laws on SW broadcasting, especially in the area of domestic SW broadcasting which prohibit nongovernmental parties from this activity, and to promote SW broadcasting in general for private use only. (Typed by Andy Robins).

RIB: ONE RUNG ON THE LADDER, OR A "NEW" DIRECTION? (Ed Stone, NY) I've been thinking about Howard Huddleston's comment that "if the happier future ever arrives that SWLing does become widespread, letters such as are found in RIB will show up under 'Letters to the Editor' or 'Our Readers Talk Back.' In the meantime, gh is to be commended..." Doesn't sound like such a happy future to me! I don't like the notion of RIB's forum format being merely an evolutionary step to a bright new generation of slick SW magazines. We've got plenty of slick magazines, but damn few forums for the exchange of opinions! There is something very personal and human about RIB's format. Rarely is a publication a participatory effort like RIB. The common formula is to produce a product and throw it at people. Mostly one-way communication. RIB is an innovation: "socialized journalism," to borrow or coin a term. I don't know of another publication like it, a meeting of minds in print. It's similar to the Greek exercise in democracy in ancient times. Because the Greek state was so small, direct participatory democracy (everybody came to vote in the legislature) worked. Each person had a hand in things. Now, when democracies became so big that each person could not participate but elected representatives instead, things began to break down a bit (USA). The response? Co-ops, communes, black associations--new direct participation groups! They provide something very basic to human beings. I think RIB is in this tradition. "The more things change, the more they remain the same."

REPORTING RELIGION (Ed Stone, NY) Your (gh's) stand viz. religious reporting interests me, although I think it's a bit unrealistic. While all reporters specializing in a particular subject grow stale after awhile and should be rotated, the religious "beat" is a rut that a reporter can easily fall into--and remain forever, I guess. It's probably as popular as the local society page beat in a small town. Once an editor finds someone who doesn't mind or even likes it, I'd think he breathes a sigh of relief and forgets about it. So who will be attracted to this beat? The committed. And, from observing a myriad religious programs, if you're not committed when you start you become so, or leave the beat for the glories of police reporting, the mayor's office, etc. So you can see those who become the "experts": the experienced in the field. And we're all aware of the subtle pressures exerted on a radio station by religious groups. Sacred cows are treated kindly, lest they raise a big fuss. Now, you want to eliminate all that? Good luck.

Religion--specifically Christianity--permeates the whole culture. It's not difficult to see the extent of this if you are a member of a minority, non-Christian religious group. Mandatory school Christmas plays, government Christmas trees, religious prayer spots on the media, and so forth, have caused more than one non-Christian child to ask, "Why don't we have a Christmas tree, Daddy?" The child begins to wonder what's wrong with his religion that it's giving second billing, or no mention at all. That doesn't do wonders for a child's self-image. There is much, much more of this than you realize; if you are a Christian, it's "invisible" to you. You take it for granted. If you're not a Christian, you're bombarded by it. The media "hawk" it.

The great thing about separation of church and state is that it can eliminate much of this subtle cultural arm-twisting, or should. But for pragmatic reasons outlined above, it's very difficult to achieve this ideal. I doubt it will ever happen, but you're right in bringing up the point in a Quixotic fashion. We live in a secular society in order to guarantee religious freedom. Let's keep it that way. AR

LET'S BE SPORTING, CONTINUED (James E. McDonald, Jr., PA) After reading your comments on team sports, and particularly ice hockey, in Feb. RIB, I had to respond. You mentioned you never witnessed a hockey game and found it to be worthless. This like saying listening to SW radio is worthless because all stations are like Radio Moscow and Radio Tirana. Sports are a form of entertainment. I was suprised you made such a statement on ice hockey. Although, I realize it never has gone over big in the deep South as it has in places like Boston and Philadelphia. Look at the attendance in these cities. The Flyers sell out every home game and get a big income from cable TV. They are also a box office hit in cities like Denver, Chicago and Detroit. Wherever they go, they have a good following. If hockey is worthless, how come two million people, including myself, came out and took part in a victory parade along Broad Street six years ago when the Flyers won the Stanley Cup? How about last year's dramatic USA-USSR confrontation at Lake Placid? If you say you never saw a hockey game it's too bad you did not. All the USA-Soviet games I can still hear Al Michaels yelling "Do you believe in miracles--yes?" It made America proud, and at the time we all needed something like that after constantly hearing about Iran and Afghanistan. Sports can get your mind off the hassle of everyday life, and look what it can do for a city--take Philadelphia for example. Did you see the celebration when the Phillies won the World Series? How about when the Eagles won the NFC championship game with Dallas? Yes Glenn, if wasn't for sports America would be dead. AR

gh: Nonsense, nonsense, nonsense. People are sadly deluding themselves if they think a US victory over the USSR in the hockey rink has any significant bearing on the relative standing of the two countries where it really matters. Why can't you and the other 1,999,999 people get as excited, for instance, at the prospect of the human race expanding into the cosmos, and put your energy and time and money into that, for instance? Furthermore, among team sports, ice hockey is surely the most violent, with fans now expecting the players to beat each other up. The animals can have it.

OSGOOD LOOKS AT MORE THAN ONE WAY TO GET IN TROUBLE (CBS News Info Dept.) "There's more than one way to get into trouble, and sometimes the trouble you get into is much worse than you ever dreamed it would be," CBS News Correspondent Charles Osgood told listeners recently on THE OSGOOD FILE, broadcast 2030 GMT and 0230 GMT Tues-Sat on AFRTS. He noted a few cases in point:

"On the night of the Titanic disaster in 1912, a ship steward, who was setting the breakfast table when the ocean liner hit the iceberg, apparently stashed a saucer in his pocket and ran for the boat deck. The steward didn't get into trouble. In fact, he was one of the lucky ones who got rescued. And the saucer he took with him became quite valuable, because it was the only piece of china removed from the sinking ship. At a commemoration of the 69th anniversary of the disaster, the saucer was put on display and somebody made off with it. Whoever that was just wanted a souvenir, but apparently began to realize that he or she was in a heap of trouble, because the saucer was valued at twenty-thousand dollars. That's grand larceny, folks. So, the saucer turned up again in the mail--the thief apparently deciding he wanted no part of it, and all's well that ends well.

"Which is more than you can say about the very valuable fish that Russ Christie and Jeff Brown ate. They were convicted in Phoenix of poaching some rare Colorado squawfish from a hatchery and eating four of them. The squawfish were valued at $8,000 apiece, because they're so rare. In fact, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is trying to save that species from extinction. And these particular fish, the ones they ate, were an important part of that effort. So, Brown and Christie are in plenty of trouble for the $32,000 fish fry. No doubt about it!

"And finally, there is the story of what happened to Brian James in Johannesburg, South Africa. James is in trouble for calling a policeman a flowerpot. James never imagined that that would be such a bad thing to do, but he and his brother were walking through the Johannesburg train station, and turned to his brother, pointed to an officer standing in the corner, and remarked in a voice loud enough for the policeman to hear, "Look! There is the station flowerpot." The officer was so offended at this that he tried to arrest James on the spot. But James simply walked away. However, later on, he was arrested and has been charged with slander. The case (was) heard on the 4th of May, and meanwhile James is free on $254 bail. You don't go around calling policemen flowerpots in South Africa--and not get away with it, you don't." AR

RIBuffoonery

1. Biology Lesson, by Aunt Enna Trimmer.
   RIB: shortwave backbone, or bone to pick.
   RIBoflavin: shortwave vitamin.
   RIBosome: shortwave component making its home in the radioplasm.
   RIBonucleic acid: substance essential in radio replication.

2. More Definitions, by C.W. Moniter.
   tRIBute: shortwave adulation.
   cRIBbage: radio game, also called "Spin the Dial," played with QSL cards.
   tRIBble: funny little creature known to inhabit spaceships and the insides of SW radios.
   tRIBesman: member of the clan of radio nomads.
   tRIBunal: annual reader survey by SW program magazine feared by international broadcasters.
   "RIBbet": sound made by RIB rooter when contentedly listening to the BBC; see also "Frog."
   RIBald: hair loss malady due to overly tight headphones; also dirty old SW listener with no hair.
   RIBot: mechanical (vs. digital) SW listener.
   RIBectomy: surgical procedure for diseased SW programs, or for listeners wid a code in deir nodse.
   RIBotaur: mythical beast, half-human, half-SW listener; existence disproved in the 19th century by Darwin's Theory of Natural Preselection.

   see also: RIBophile, RIBophilliac, RIBonaut, RIBomaniac, etc.

3. Finale.
   There once was a lass named Ms. Reever
   Who loved her old shortwave receiver.
   But alas, elle est morte;
   An electrical short
   Did her in, and we could not retrieve her.

Compiled by E.D. Piedra, obscure philosopher and musician known for performances on slide tRIBone and the MARMONICa, who knows better than to admit to writing any of the above.* As the Arbor Day Warden said, "Seventy Tree." * NOTE: party responsible for above is withholding identity due to possibility of punitive retRIBution. Names changed to shield the guilty. AR

AND HE TALKED, AND TALKED, AND TALKED; OR THE SAGA OF AN UNID (Maxfield Greenwood, ME) At 1040 GMT, I tuned in 9665 kHz and had a man there talking in a language unfamiliar to me, but it was, I believed, a language of the sub-continent/F.E. zone, from India to Indonesia. The signal was SIO 433 and holding steady. I checked by frequency list and saw that I had never logged a station here at this time period. I then checked all the possibles, i.e. stations listed on this frequency and capable of being received at my QTH at this given time. Presto! My possibles came up as merely two stations: USSR (Asian) and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (their Home Service).

Checking my WRTVH on page 227 (Malaysia) I found that 9665 was listed as broadcasting at this time in Bahasa Malaysia and/or English (it was unclear as to which times were EG and which were BM). I had heard BM a couple of times before, and I thought that yes, this could indeed be that language. I am, or rather, have become a taping "nut" with a crazy ambition of taping acceptable-to-good samples of 200 countries. I now have 125 countries taped out of 144 heard, but not all quality samples. So I thought, here's a good chance to either improve on my one sample of Malaysia, or on the other hand, log a new station on this frequency. A piece of cake, I thought. Any minute now, or at least at 1100 GMT, I'm going to get a nice ID of Kuala Lumpur, or a new station.

At 1045 this man was still talking. At 1100 he was still talking. At 1135 he was continuing to drone on and on and on in his grating and tedious, un-understood, exotic verbiage. At 1200 GMT this man, seemingly born to torment the DXers heart, was still grinding onward, and I'm quite sure, if this was Malaysia, not one radio was tuned into this monotone Howard Cosell of the Malayan Peninsula.

One hour and 35 minutes has now passed and he's not missed a beat; not one pause, not one cough, not one dramatic emphasis, nor stammer, nor laugh, nor ripple of humour--just on and on, like a wound up "Malaysian" Dwight Eisenhower determinedly reading a phonebook with numbers.

It is now 1220, and seven cigarettes since a pathetic twist of fortune led this doggedly determined DXer to this cursed 9665, and the signal has faded to SIO 322, and my chances of IDing this marathon are now slim-to-none.

Viola! 1225 and he stops! There is a seeming NA and music, and at 1230 a woman gives an ID at a 222 level, but I don't recognize it immediately. And then this woman begins to talk and talk... but, ah, what bliss, at 1245 she starts to talk intermittantly between bits of music of a, to me, non-descript FE EZL variety of psuedo "classical" frame. At 1300 GMT there are four pips (three short, one long) and short ID by a man. There is dead air for a minute, then an apparently live coverage of some event where a man speaks in this still same unknown language, but unlike the first "speaker," this man speaks in sections, and with each pause there is applause.

At 1310 I tune this Unid, possibly Malaysia, out. And one tired DXer then goes through the dutiful task of preserving in his tape archives the 1230 and 1300 IDs of this station. And another day, when less drained from this long run down a seeming blind alley, he will play these ID samples over and over, trying to break down and finally log it as a known.

Why did I persist in this? Why did I spend all this time? Why? Because it was there and I did not know what it was; it's that simple.

This is a challenging hobby, and after roughly one-and-a-half years at it, more and more I am beginning to comprehend how hard it is to really become accomplished. But already the demands of this hobby have pushed me to become acquainted with languages, cultures, geography, technology, and on and on. But regardless of its rewards, we will always have days and nights where we meet with some man, somewhere, talking to us via our receiver in a language we don't know, and we will wait for him to stop, and he won't. P.S. I would be most grateful for an ID on this station. AR

POLSKIE RADIO AND AUSSIE TV (Syd Osterman, ON) I have been watching, courtesy of TV Ontario (Ch. 19), the Australian docu-drama serial "The Sullivans." Depicting the day-to-day activities of an average small-town Australian family just prior to, and continuing through, WW-II. Many relationships develop, including one between 14-year-old Kitty Sullivan and Jarvis, a reclusive middle-aged man. Not to worry folks, so far strictly avuncular--sort of a shoulder to lean on in troubled times.

The expected fall of Poland to the Nazi hordes is much-discussed and really upsets young Kitty, causing her to seek solace in the well-furnished house of hermit Jarvis. Suddenly, he whips off a cover, rather like a small prayer rug. Lo and behold, a SW receiver! Seemingly a pristine vintage HRO. Our reclusive SWL simply flips one switch and the room is filled with solemn sounds of a piano. "There it is, Kitty, Warsaw and Chopin." The music finally ceases, leaving them with the realization that Warsaw had fallen to the Nazis. Jarvis was able to repeat his instant reception of Warsaw at a later date, when only German talk was heard. Apparently no static or interference bothered reception in far-off 1939, and just by flipping what could only be a standby switch! I wonder if Down Under DXers were consulted on the technicalities? Certainly, there was enough musical expertise to avoid the faux pas of confusing the "Warsaw Concerto" with Chopin!

I believe that PBS is showing "The Sullivans" also. If so, I can recommend it to US RIBers. The series is inferior to British productions of similar genre. However, it is streets ahead of the Canadian "Home Fires," whose acting seems so stiff and self-conscious that it is embarrassing to watch. Finally, a word of caution--there are sexual innuendoes, especially concerning the relationship between Kitty and Jarvis. Thus, in view of recent comment in RIB, some may be offended.

PIRATES VS. PRATTLE (Ed Stone, NY) I enjoyed reading Crazy Roger's remarks (April RIB). His comment about amateur broadcasts being boring or trite misses an important point, however. Amateur transmissions are person-to-person, despite the fact that many others can tune in to hear them. They are intended to provide point-to-point communication, not broadcasts to an audience. The proper comparison is with legal SWBC stations. Incidently, GH, I do believe you should continue to report pirate news. I say that even though I feel most of them are just "playing" radio.

The idea of an "alternative radio" band for pirates might be a good one. But once they are legal half the fun of being a pirate will be gone! It's the old Forbidden Fruit argument. Frankly, if they were legal, how many people would tune into most pirates? The few times I've tuned in it was because I was curious about this illegal activity--and were they any good to boot? When I found that they weren't, I dialed away quickly and haven't listened much to pirates since.

Question: Have any pirates come up with really innovative programming? I suppose if you are out in some hick town with staid and conservative (and bland) radio stations, someone with a few Lenny Bruce records and music of the Twenties is refreshing. There, a bit of irreverent humor falls like badly needed rain on parched ground.

If you live in The Big City, however, you may have plenty of that. It flooded the New York metro area in the late Sixties, Channel One movies, WBAI Pacifica Radio, college stations, etc., for example. But after the fuss had died down, a lot of it dropped away because it was sophomoric or had no anti-war movement to fuel its fires. I find I don't really miss it. I'm out of my "rebellious" phase for the most part, and from this vantage point most of the rest of the culture is also.

I find there still are a lot of creative things on radio that fill the void. Much is on FM locally. I enjoy music of the Twenties, jazz from the same period, some irreverent comedy, and so on--mostly from local university stations on FM (Fordham, Columbia, Fairleigh Dickenson, etc.). Boston has even more universities, and so must be even richer in this respect than NYC. It's too bad that good FM reception is limited by the horizon. In this area I can receive Caribbean music (reggae, or "rockers"), Chinese music, American folk, old jazz, show tunes (Broadway), comedy shows, Big Bands, nostalgia, Arabic music, Israeli music, Jewish cantorial music, Yiddish folk tunes, Indian classical music and American country music, to name a few, hi!

As you can see, I'm fortunate at this QTH. If pirates can approach the quality of what I can receive here--commentary, comedy and music--then I will be impressed. But how many do? "Alternative program format" sounds good, but I've not heard much that bowls me over so far. Can you be as refreshing as David Monson? Of course, reception of pirates is difficult at best in any event, so there may be something going on that is truly creative and hasn't been covered in RIB, or elsewhere. But I have yet to hear of it. I still think most of it is a waste of electricity. But I'd like to see some of you pirates prove me wrong! Can you do it?!! AR

DUBAI (Maxfield Greenwood while still in ME) Well, let's keep it simple and get right to the results of Maxey's First "It's A Contest." Category One (less than extreme DX experience): Benton Marder of Portland, ME, was the first to give me the correct answer, though overall the first correct answer came from Bob Rankin, dated the 16th. Runners-up, in order, were: Doug Thompson (MI)& Herbert Wolfson (NY) were a deadheat for second (dated 18 March), Chris Leithner (TN, dated 19th), Bruce Tindell (NC, dated 19th; thanx for your delightful letter Bruce!), and last but certainly not least the feisty Kathleen Lynch (not fellow or fellah), dated the 21st (and yes Kathleen, I know the problems of RFD delivery in Maine, having myself spent much time in your "neck of the woods."

Category Two (seasoned Dxers): First place was Bob Rankin in Kansas, with Don Moore the runner-up, dated the 18th.

Now, various things need to be said regards what I intended in my Dubai item. I intended it to be basically in jest, except for my remark regards the British Empire's past penchant for discrimination in lands colonized. Specifically to Bob and Kathleen, I LOVE Scottish pipes and drum music and am fully aware that it is loved the world over. It's stirring stuff! My whole point was this: on the occasion I was listening to Dubai, they played the Scot's Pipes and Drums march music as an interval signal, and that's where the novel aspect of this Dubai "business" centred.

Also, thanx to Bruce Tindall for educating me to the fact that the St. Alban raid, though the northern most attack by the Confederacy via land, was not, in fact, the northernmost war action by the South. That was, in truth, naval action against Yankee whalers in the Bering Sea.

To Kathleen, I will puzzle out your Morgan raiders question to be sure, but you sure do have me stumped off-hand.

In brief, the answer to the St. Albans question is simply it was a raid by escaped POWs, led by a Lt. Bennet Young, CSA, on Oct. 19, 1864. They succeeded in robbing three banks in St. Albans of upwards of $200,000 and attempted to burn the town down. They then fled into Canada (circa thirty men) and were subsequently captured by the Canadians, but were soon released.

And this just in, another correct answer, this being from Reginald (oops! Where's your letter, Reginald?) Watson. My apologies Reginald, but thanx for your letter and I'm bound to find it. Well, thus ends Maxey's First Annual It's A Contest. AR

DX PROGRAMS IN ENGLISH

(C) Glenn Hauser 1981

NOTE: This attempts to be a complete worldwide listing. It includes almost any show calling itself "DX" (except Radio Korea's which is actually a mailbag), and several which do not but are generally recognized as intended for the shortwave listening enthusiast. Best frequencies in North America are underlined. In most cases times vary; tune in early to be safe. When exact time is unknown, entire possible span is shown thus: 0000/0100. Roman numerals distinguish between more than one different program per week. Hindu numerals in parentheses refer to week of month; if *, these weeks depend on previous GMT day. All times and days are GMT. $ = time will change to one hour later when station ceases observing DST (last Sunday in September, Europe; October, North America) $$ = one hour earlier during southern hemisphere DST November-February. # = frequent changes. U = recently unconfirmed

SATURDAY

0025-0040 Sofia 15330 15110
0030-0050 Veritas 17780 15285 15135
0150-0200 Moscow till Oct 1: 17700 15425 12050
$ 11770 11750 11720 11710 9685 9600 600. till Sept 5: 15240 15100 11960 11920 11700 9665. till July 31: 12030. Sept 6-Oct 1: 21560 17760 9760 9720 9610 7150
0245-0250 Bucharest (I) 15380 11940 11840 11725 9570 5990
0300-0312 Budapest 17710 15220 11910 9835 9585 (I)
$ 6025
0313-0328 Portugal 11925 6155 3-weekly
0450-0500 Moscow till Oct 1: 15405 12050. till
$ Sept 5: 15425 15180 15100. till July 31: 17700. Sept 6-Oct 1: 11710 9580
0543-0558 Portugal 9575 6155 3-weekly
0650-0700 Moscow till Oct 1: 12050. till Sept 5:
$ 15425 15180 15100. till July 31: 17700. Sept 5-Oct 1: 11870 11750 11710 9580
0655-0705 Bucharest (II) 17805 15335 11940
0700-0730 HCJB (III) 11835 15225 # $
0705-0726 SRI (2,4) 21695 21520 15305 9560 9535 6165 3985
0738-0750 Sofia 9590 11790 15160
0745-0800 TWR Monaco (3) 9665 # $
0900-0930 HCJB (III) 6130
0905-0926 SRI (2,4) 21695 21520 15305 9560
0940-0955 DW (3) 21680 21540 17800 17780 15275 15160 11850
1105-1126 SRI (2,4) 21630 21520 17795 15430
1205-1226 SRI (2,4) 9535 6165 3985 $$
1230-1250 Turkey 9560 /9535 6165 3985]
1321-1342 SRI (2,4) 21695 21570 21520 17850 17830]
1400-1415 TWR Monaco (3) 9670# $
1400-1420 Turkey 15125
1400/1430 Tashkent 15460 11785 9750 9715 5950
(after 2nd Sun) /3985]
1536-1557 SRI (2,4) 21570 17830 15125 9535 6165]
1720/1750 DW (3) 21620 17825 15405 11785 9590
1821-1842 SRI (2,4) 21570 17850 17830 15415 9535]
2100-2120 Turkey 9725 or 9615 /6165 3985]
2130/2157 RCI 17875 17820 15325 15150 11945
2130-2200 HCJB (III) 26021 21480 17790 15305#
2145/2155 RSA 11900 9585 5980 /3985 6165]
2151-2212 SRI (2,4) 21585 17850 17830 15305 9535]
2230-2250 Turkey 11805 9725 7215 #

SUNDAY

0000/0100 Sofia 15330 15110 U
0100-0130 KUWR 91.9 & 88.7 FM (Wyoming) $
0150-0211 SRI (2*4) 15305 11715 9725 6135
0230-0300 HCJB (III) 15360 9745
0245/0255 RSA 9615 9585 5980
0400/0500 Sofia 11750
0435-0455 SRI (2*4) 11715 9725
0612-0627 Australia (1) 21680 21525 17870 17795 17755 17725 15240 15160 11820
0630/0700 Polonia (2,4) 9675 7270 6135
0720-0730 RMWS 21740 21710 21690 21600 21560 21490 21450 17880 17830 17810 17760 15540 15530 15460 15410 15370 15360 15320 15280 15260 15220 15210 15140 15130 15110 12050 12010 11970 11960 11830 11735 9780 9530 9490 9450 7300
0810-0825 Australia (1) 21680 21570 17725 15410 15115 11740 9570 6045
0820-0830 Japan 21610 17870
0830-0845 AWR-Portugal 9665 $
0900-0915 Austria 21660 9770 7170 6155
1010-1020 Japan 15235 11840
1100-1130 Sri Lanka 17850 15120 11800
1135-1145 Japan 11875 9675
1200/1230 Polonia (2,4) 7285 6095
1200/1230 Tashkent (2) 15460 11785 9750 9715 5950
1220-1230 Japan 15310 11815 9505
1235-1250 Austria 21655 21610 9770 6155
1300-1330 Sri Lanka 4940 + 4 MW, 6 FM frequencies
1320-1330 RMWS 21740 21710 21610 21590 21530 21490 21450 17880 17850 17840 17700 15540 15440 15375 15320 15260 15150 15135 12050 12030 11970 11960 11900 11840 11830 11740 11720 9780 9760 9750 9580 9490 9450 7300 600
1500-1530 Sri Lanka 9720 6075
1600/1630 Polonia (2,4) 9540 6135
1612-1627 Australia (1) 17795 9770 9710 6080 6060 6045 6035 5995
1635-1650 Belgium 21810 6010
1650-1700 Japan 15235 11705
1805-1820 Austria 17835 15560 15290 6155
1830/1900 Polonia (2,4) 7285 6095
1850-1900 Japan 15410 11800
1920-1930 Japan 17755 15310 11815
1920-1930 RMWS 17700 15455 15290 15150 12050 12010 12000 11960 11850 11840 11630 7390
1925/1945 RCI 21630 17875 15325 9555 7130
1950-2000 Spain 11840 9765
2023-2028 Israel 21675 21495 17685 17645 15582 15485 15415 9009
2035-2045 Japan 15410 11780
2112-2127 Australia (1) 21650 17795 15240 15160 11820 11790 11770 11725 9580 6035
2230/2300 Polonia (2,4) 7270 7125 6135 5995

2230/2330 Sofia 15330 15110
2320-2330 Japan 17755 15310 15195

M O N D A Y

0023-0028 Israel 15582½ 11637½ 9815
0025-0035 Japan 17825 15430
0040/0100 Belgium 15365 15175
0045/0100 Spain 11880 9630
0100/0128 RCI 17820 9755 5960
0107/0130 WPTF 680 (NC & southwards) $
0112-0127 Australia (1) 21740 21680 21650 17890 17795 15240 15160
0120-0130 RMWS 21690 21530 21490 17900 17730 15410 12000
0140/0155 Spain 11880 9630
0210-0220 Japan 21640 17825 17725 15235
0219-0224 Israel 15582½ 11637½ 9815
0223/0237 Polonia 15120 11815 9525 7270 7145 6095
0315/0350 New Zealand (1,3) 17860 15485 $$?
0330-0400 HCJB (I) 15360 9745
0415-0425 RBI 11795 11720 $
0434-0450 Austria 12015 17745
0500-0530 KERE 710 (Denver, NE/SW) $
0610/0625 Spain 11880 9630
0615-0625 RBI 21540 21465 17700 $
0700-0730 HCJB (I) 11835 15225# $
0900-0930 HCJB (I) 6130
1015-1035 New Zealand (1,3) 11945 $$?
1030- 4VL 918 (Queensland)
1040-1045 India 2-weekly 21695 17875 17387 15350 15285 15205
1130-1140 RBI 21540 21465 17700 15320 $
1245-1255 RBI 21485 $
1330-1340 RBI 21540 21465 17700 $
1345-1355 RBI 15240 11700 9730 $
1405/1430 CBCNS 11720 9625 $ irregular
1430-1440 RBI 21540 17700 $
1430-1450 Veritas 15215 11955 9535
1435-1440 India 2-weekly 15335 11810
1500/1630 SABC (1) 4835 + FM U
1545-1555 RBI 11700 9730 7185 $
1715-1725 RBI 7185 6115 6080 $
1730-1740 RBI 21515 21500 15170 $
1845-1855 RBI 7185 6115 6080 $
1930-1935 India 2-weekly 15265 11830 11620 9912 9665
1930-1940 RBI 15390 9665 $
2000-2010 RBI 7260 $
2015-2025 Bucharest (I) 11940 9690
2100-2110 RBI 6115 6080 1359 $
2125-2130 India 2-weekly 15110 11755 11620 9912 9665
2130-2200 HCJB (I) 26021 21480 17790 15305

T U E S D A Y

0030-0040 RBI 11975 9560 $
0050-0055 India 2-weekly 15275 15110 11835 11765 9605 9535 7215
0200-0210 RBI 11975 9560 $
0230-0300 HCJB (I) 15360 9745
0245-0250 Bucharest (I) 15380 11940 11840 11725 9570 5990
0300-0310 RBI 11975 11890 11840 $
1113-1126 Sweden 21610 9630
1122/1128 RSA 25790 21535 15220
1243-1256 Sweden 21690 21635
1413-1426 Sweden 21700 21615 /$
1415-1427 Budapest 17710 15160 11910 9835 9585 7200
1613-1626 Sweden 17840
1815-1830 DLF 1269 $
1843-1856 Sweden 15240 6065 1179
2113-2126 Sweden 17810 15320 15240 1179
2130-2200 WGDR 91.1 FM (Plainfield VT) $ U
2313-2326 Sweden 15380 11705 17810

W E D N E S D A Y

0243-0256 Sweden 17810 11705 15315 /$
0300-0312 Budapest 17710 15220 11910 9835 9585 6025
0900- VK3BVW et al 3565 or 7080 SSB ham net
1900/1927 Prague 7345 7245 5930
1920/1930 Kiev 11880 9560 $
2015-2025 Bucharest (II) 11940 9690
2130/2157 Prague 6055 1287
2350-2400 Kiev 17870 17845 15180 12060 11735 9800 $

T H U R S D A Y

0100-0115 KTWR 17770
0220-0230 Kiev 17870 17845 15515 15180 12060 11790 11735 9800 $
0230-0300 HCJB (II) 15360 9745
0245-0250 Bucharest (II) 15380 11940 11840 11725 9570 5990
0700-0730 HCJB (II) 11835 15225# $
0751-0821 Netherlands 9770 9715
0851-0921 Netherlands 9715
0900-0930 HCJB (II) 6130
0949-1019 Netherlands 15560 11930 9895 6045 5955
1303-1309 RSA 25790 21535 15220
1320-1330 Bucharest (II) 17850 15250 11940
1349-1419 Netherlands 17605 11930 9895 6045 5955
1449-1519 Netherlands 21480 15560 11735
1739-1744 BBC 88900-FM 21710 21470 17705 15400 15225 15070 12095 11955 11750 9740 9410 7180 6195 6180 5975 3915 1413 1323 1296
1849-1919 Netherlands 15220 6020
1935-1955 Moscow (II) 15535 11820 9685 9490 7440 7330 1143 (also Sunday 1915?) $
2049-2119 Netherlands 21685 17695 17605 15220 9715
2130-2200 HCJB (II) 26021 21480 17790 15305
2300-2330 WUOT 91.9 FM & WUTC 88.1 FM (TN) $

F R I D A Y

0030-0100 WCWP 88.1 FM New York City area $
0135-0145 Prague 11990 9740 9540 7345 5930
0225/0235 Polonia 15120 11815 9525 7270 7145 6095
0251-0321 Netherlands 9590 6165
0335-0345 Prague 11990 9740 9540 7345 5930
0438-0444 BBC 15420 15070 12095 11750 9580 9410 7185 6175 6050 6005 5975 1323
0551-0621 Netherlands 9715 6165
0915-0930 KTWR 11840
1200- R Pacific 1593 (New Zealand) $$ /$
1415-1427 Budapest 17710 15160 11910 9835 9585 7200
1445-1500 KTWR 11945
1613-1628 Portugal 3-weekly 21475
1730-1800 WCWP 88.1 FM New York City area $
1813-1828 Portugal 3-weekly 21530 17770
2015-2020 Bucharest (I) 11940 9690
2043-2058 Portugal 3-weekly 11775 9605 6010 # (more)

2137-2152 Sofia 15135 11750 11720
2154-2159 BBC 21690 15260 15070 12095 11750 9410 7185 7120 6195 6180 6175 6005 5975 1323 648 639
2350-2400 Moscow till Oct 1: 17700 15425 12050
2350-2400 (contd) 11770 11750 11720 11710 11700 9685 600. to Sept 5: 15240 15100 11960 11920 11780. till July 31: 15455 12030 Sept 6-Oct 1: 21560 17760 9760 9720 9665 9610 $

Ralf Munster, Decatur GA, notes that RBI's DX program has started 5 minutes earlier than times shown. The astute reader of this list can use it as a frequency updater for general non-DX program listening.

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PUBLIC RADIO IS A REAL JOB (Garrison Keillor, AP/Los Angeles Times)(AP Editor's Note: Humorist Garrison Keillor is host of Minnesota Public Radio's A PRAIRIE HOME COMPANION broadcast Saturday evening over National Public Radio stations and "sponsored" by a variety of imaginary products and the mythical community of Lake Wobegon.)

Among the old fellows who reside at the Chatterbox Cafe back in my hometown of Lake Wobegon, President Reagan's budget-cutting sets high marks these days, also among the bunch who lean up against the five-and-dime and keep an eye on things. They're all for it, every bit of it and more besides, and the sooner the better.

They look upon the President's budget as a sort of hard freeze that improves the character and produces heartier varieties. They think that it has been springtime in Washington for far too long now. They make no exception for the President's proposal to knock down public broadcasting. "It is time," they tell me, "that you get a real job done."

I hate to take issue with friends and relatives, but as I see it, I have a real job in public radio, and public radio has a real job. And the President's proposal is no simple housecleaning. It is more like dropping the good china in order to hear how it sounds when it breaks.

The federal government got into the business of supporting public radio in 1945 when the FCC decided to set aside one-fifth of the FM channels for non-commercial stations. The Commission believed that some part of the public airways should be used for a purpose other than selling soap. Most people shared this belief, even those of us who bathe daily.

With the Public Broadcasting Act of 1967, the government went a step further and offered money to subsidize the construction and operation of public stations. The crucial question was the one of the stations' independence: How do you subsidize someone without becoming his dad? Congress resolved that by establishing the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, an independent, quasi-official agency (its members appointed by the president) whose purpose was to dispense the money and insulate stations somewhat from day-to-day political static. The Treasury sent the money to the Corporation, and the Corporation decided how to spend it. In 1975, the government decided to insulate public broadcasting even further by appropriating money two years in advance.

If a president or Congress should take a sudden dislike to William F. Buckley's FIRING LINE thinking that Buckley is too political, or that he raises his eyebrows in the wrong places, the government could not cut off all funds immediately. It would have to wait two years for full reverse. It is this idea, that public broadcasting should be insulated from its major patrons so as to enjoy a measure of independence, that the President attacks. It is no more a simple budget cut than I am a Rockefeller. It is a change of policy, and a bad one.

Reagan proposes to put public radio on a short leash. He asks Congress to take back some of the money it has already appropriated for public broadcasting, and he asks Congress to attach strings to the remainder. He would eliminate a two-year grace period, and he would instruct the Corporation to cut its budget by eliminating NPR and the national network of public radio stations.

NPR's annual budget is $14 million, a sum that produces not only ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, this country's best and most complete news program, but also a two-hour morning news service and about 40 hours of music and public affairs programs a week. And it pays for a space satellite that enables local stations around the country to transmit some of their shows coast-to-coast. Talk about reversing the trend toward coastal domination! Thanks to the satellite, we now take a little vaudeville show in Minnesota and beam it to Washington, New York and Los Angeles.

Perhaps this subsidy needs to be cut; some days the sun don't shine. If it is cut, public radio will make do in reduced circumstances. We're hardy.

What I don't understand is why the President would dispense with the principle of insulating public radio from government influence. One admirable fact about our government is that not only has it shied away from establishing an official domestic broadcasting service, it has also shied away from appearing to establish one. For President Reagan, who has preached for years against the heavy hand of government, now to compromise his principle of insulation is surely a mistake. It seems to me to be a very sound Republican principle, as well as a matter of grace. When Father Emil at Our Lady of Perpetual Responsibility Church in Lake Wobegon distributes Christmas baskets, he simply gives them to the poor, no questions asked. He doesn't make a pastoral call until two weeks later. AR

THOSE UN-WORLDLY AMERICANS (Ed Stone, NY) Following up on what I said in Feb. RIB about Americans not knowing much about what goes on beyond their borders (this includes a lack of interest in shortwave radio) I came across a comment by Sylvia Porter: "...We're even more inferior in our cultural knowledge of other countries. Fewer than 5-percent of teachers now being trained are required to take intercultural courses for certification. The percentage of international items featured on U.S. commercial TV networks is the lowest out of one-hundred nations (sic) surveyed by UNESCO. Fewer American correspondents are abroad now than at any time since World War II. Is it so suprising that in a survey a few years ago of high school seniors, 40-percent thought that the late Golda Meir was president of Egypt?" (Sylvia Porter's New Money Book for the 80's, Avon, 1979, p. 578).

The popularization of shortwave listening in the U.S. would go a long way towards curing this state of affairs, I think. I wonder what a more global perspective would do to everyday life here?

REFLECTIONS OF A SHORTWAVE LISTENER

By Steve Kennedy

With the advent of the '80s upon us all, this writer found it necessary to reflect on 16-years of involvement in the listening hobby as a DXer and SWL. After several hours of looking through old log books, QSLs, tapes and personal notes, it became evident that I must take a serious look at my hobby.

RIB readers come in almost every size, shape, color, religion and political persuasion, myself included. RIB reflects almost every side of the DX hobby-- from the pros and cons of QSLs, to my own "Limits" articles which received comments pro and con. As Voltaire said, "I may not agree with what you have to say, but I will defend your right to say it." A little bit of controversy is useful in getting some readers excited enough to comment. This is especially true of the reader who is apathetic about the problems that confront the modern SWL/DXer. Let's discuss specific areas which we will confront sometime if we expect to enjoy our hobby for a lifetime.

The relative newcomer to the hobby has a wide selection of receivers which were but a dream ten years ago. When I became involved with this hobby in the mid-60s, the only receivers available were those using a disc or slide-rule dial. Calibration was deplorable--it was quite easy to be 100 kHz off unless a chart and crystal calibrator were used. Sometimes an old BC-221 frequency meter would be needed to "spot" the dial to a desired frequency. 16-years ago, a DXer had to roll his own equipment. Much of the gear needed to prowl the bands was very expensive, so preselectors, calibrators, loop antennas and interfacing equipment had to be made by hand. Remember the old RME "boat anchor" preselector? It was as large as the receiver! Today, the DXer/SWL doesn't have to build anymore--just send a money order to one of the hobby caterers and you'll soon have any item desired. It's just as well since component parts are hard to find. Try to buy a 3-gang TRF variable capacitor; it is almost impossible to find a 2-gang! Nobody builds receivers anymore.

There has never been, nor ever will be, a receiver that suits all of those who participate in the hobby. With the exceptions of the selectivity and signal handling qualities of the old Hammarlunds, Hallicrafters, Nationals, Collins and Eddystone receivers, one of the newer Wadley-loop, solid-state, digital-readout sets will out-perform the old "faithfuls" with sensitivity and frequency resolution that makes SWLing a snap! Because manufacturers must make a receiver that will do well in the market we must contend with what's available, and modify to suit our needs.

The verification game has changed. Sixteen-years ago, when postage was cheap, it was easy to verify everything heard. Sometimes a SWL would send reports to a station every three or four months to get a newly-designed card. But with the slow growth of the hobby, and the growing mountains of reception reports at stations, it became necessary to impose a reporting period. Or, worse yet, an audience card was sent out--the report never checked. I have on file hundreds of QSL cards. Most will become prized collector's items someday when broadcasters stop sending QSLs. I, as well as many RIB readers, have received "no data" QSLs. The "purist" in the hobby will say that this kind of card doesn't qualify as a valid QSL! Well, that's better than receiving nothing at all! In lieu of QSLs, the tape recorder has become an alternative means of proving reception.

Inflation will continue to take its toll on the QSL game. As postage and processing costs rise, we will have to take another look at verifying DX. This writer has had to take drastic steps to insure that there is a 90% chance of receiving a QSL in return for a carefully hand-typed report. 1. Report only to stations known to reply to DX reports. 2. Always include return postage. 3. Hand-type all reports; report forms don't always work. 4. If possible, include a self-addressed return envelope. Out of 50 reports sent in the last four years, 45 have replied. In addition, this writer doesn't try to send a report to every station heard. I prefer to send ten or fifteen reports a year to a station I want in my QSL collection, rather than trying to verify every flea-powered Bolivian on the 60 meter-band. That's what the tape recorder is for. An interesting point about the QSL game is that when a listener cranks out dozens of reception reports year after year, it can lead to a "burned out" feeling, and eventually a new QSL arriving every day can lead to a great disappointment when the time comes that there's not much more to verify. One final point: after sixteen years at the SWBC game, I've only QSLed 93 countries. Maybe I'll reach the "Golden 100 mark" in a year or two; what the hell is the hurry? I want to enjoy the hobby, not burn myself out typing reports and missing out on my listening!

Band conditions have changed in the past sixteen years too. In 1964, there were probably less than half as many stations on the air as there are now. Being able to tune from one station to another was easier because there weren't as many super transmitters burning up the ionosphere. Today, a listener must contend with a lot of adjacent channel interference from super-powered transmitters when trying to hear what was considered a powerful station fifteen years ago, a measly 100 kW! The unfortunate fact is that we often have to settle for a smaller number of favorite stations to supply our listening pleasure. Yep, limits again! The real culprit is noise from power utility wires,

light dimmers, color TV horizontal sweep oscillators, and just about every electrical device within a mile of the receiving antenna. It's sad, but we'll have to live in this environment. In 1966, All India Radio was received with little problem--now it is plagued by tremendous noise levels.

The world's SW broadcasters are having to resort to high-powered transmitters, not only to combat adjacent and co-channel interference, but to overcome urban noise levels. This power race has resulted in 500kW transmitters becoming common. With fossil fuels at a premium, SW broadcasters have had to cut costs in order to power their mammoths. This may mean reduced transmission time to a given service area, imposing restrictions on the issue of QSLs, or even dropping broadcasts to areas having too few listeners to justify continued service. Anyone who was involved in the hobby just ten years ago may remember that the price of crude oil was less than $5 a barrel. It was much easier then to meet the power demands of a SW station.

The urban radio noise level is rising as well as the price of oil. It is estimated that with the advent of home computers, pocket calculators and the proliferation of color TV receivers, the average noise level has risen twofold. There is really little that can be done about it; even the most elaborate antenna is not immune to noise in an urban environment. Speaking of antennas, the "perfect" antenna has yet to be discovered--one which will eliminate noise, be sensitive to signals which are fractions of a microvolt in strength and receive frequencies from longwave through the 10-meter band, and be compact enough not to confuse the user with hams or CBers.

What is the future of the hobby? It's not possible to predict exactly what will be in store for the SWL/DXing world. However, there are some possibilities for change in the hobby's scope and depth: 1) The FCC has announced support for a change from ten to nine kiloHertz spacing on the MW band. Should this be adopted in Region II to conform with MW allocations worldwide, it might mean the end of foreign MW DX. If MW is your favorite band, you'd better hear as much as you can, and collect as many QSLs as possible, before a reducation in spacing takes away that elusive DX. 2) It's doubtful that the ITU will further expand the HFBC bands after the turn of the century. The SWBC community received a lot of new territory at WARC-79. How it is managed and used will determine the survival of international broadcasting in the Twenty-first Century. 3) Within ten to fifteen years, SSB will become common on the SWBC bands. This will be possible with a receiver using a phase-lock loop to "lock" the set onto a pilot carrier, making reception enjoyable. It is also possible to use digital modulation in a like manner to reproduce nearly perfect "studio" audio! 4) Increasing energy costs will require SW broadcasters to reduce program and frequency time to a given area. The cost of operating a high-powered transmitter will, in time, require using lower power with a much more efficient antenna delivering higher gain and ERP. 5) Postage and labor costs will require stations to impose "reporting periods" for QSLs, going to no-data "audience cards," or worse yet, no cards at all! Tape recordings will have to suffice as proof of reception. I realize that the thought of all this will upset the DX/QSL collector, but worldwide inflation takes its toll. 6) Receiver prices will increase, but quality may reach a plateau in a few years. The demand for a receiver meeting most DX/SWL needs will probably be met in the next five years. It will have all of the features of the new digital receivers, improved signal handling, several degrees of selectivity and will be complete with no need for options or accessories. It will make all other receivers obsolete, and will be built for a life expectancy, under normal use, of the user's lifetime. Sounds impossible? JRC has almost made all of this a reality with the NRD-505! 7) It's possible that the ranks of listeners may double in number within the next five years. This may be a "peak number" as it is really doubtful that many Americans will be willing to give up TV and just listen to the radio. All of us have work cut out for us to educate the public about SWBC. RIB has done much to change programming available on SW, but without a listening audience is it worth the effort by the broadcaster to make them available? Certainly, a SW broadcaster wants more than a handful of QSL collectors listening to his/her program!

In closing, this writer has redefined what is to be expect from the hobby. Perhaps the future is not rosy for the DXer and program listener. But the hobby will continue to exist. Fifteen years ago I was a hardcore SW/MW DXer. Today I listen to the radio, from the longwave band to FM: broadcasts, utes, hams, police and fire, all of the bands. I may write occasionally to a station which has a QSL or pennant I want, but the key to lifelong enjoyment of the DX hobby is to enjoy it all. Until the advent of RIB, I never thought of writing articles as part of the hobby, but writing this is nearly as much fun as hearing Radio Nibi-Nibi! AR

SOLUTION FOUND, EUREKA! (Ed Stone, NY) I think I've finally got it all together, bouncing as I do between DX (some of the time) and program listening (most of the time). DX is for sparking the imagination, letting you appreciate the vast distances, the mystery and electronic miracle that is SW radio Programs are food for the imagination, the mind. Maybe you could think of it as starting a fire and then then keeping it going. I think most of us got into shortwave because of the "gee whiz" distance aspect. Has anyone ever purchased his or her first SW radio to listen to programs? If Boobus Americanus knew that there was something interesting to listen to, perhaps more SW sets would be sold. But maybe what we really need to publicize the hobby is the widespread use of SSTV, to ease the shock of weaning people away from TV...can you picture the EVENING NEWS FROM BRT with David Monson?!!! I'm trying to, but I have never seen Uncle Walt good and drunk on the air, and so my imagination fails me

PRESERVING QSLs

By Mike Hardester

Recently, Radio Nederland announced that the issuing of QSL cards would be reduced to twice a year thus following the pattern of Radio Australia, Deutsche Welle, Radio Finland, etc. To some people in the hobby, such will be of little concern: they either don't send for QSLs or already have the station/country verified. However, those newer to the hobby are hurt. Regardless of which side you're on, broadcaster or hobbyist, each will have an opinion concerning the apparent demise of the QSL aspect of the hobby, and I have mine which I'd like to share.

First, the broadcaster offers the reason of budget constraints due to inflation or something similar. Such may be true. It may also be that the broadcaster is so inefficient in managing the budget that the station continually runs short of toilet paper--now we know where the QSL cards and BBC program schedules are going! To elaborate a bit: I first heard Radio Australia in 1969 and sent for a QSL card, which I received. At the time I was living in Modesto, CA. To this very day, my parents still receive the airletter frequency schedule from Radio Australia, though I haven't sent them a report in over ten years! That one airletter, four times a year for the past ten years, wasn't printed and sent free! How many similar airletters are still being sent? Then there was a request from stations to advise if the listener/reporter wanted a QSL card--a joke of a request.

Occasionally, I tune in an international broadcaster and send them a signal report and comment on programming. Each time I state that a QSL card is not requested, but each time I receive one in reply! Somewhere, someone doesn't want to save money. However, all is not the broadcaster's fault; the hobbyist must assume some of the blame.

Our hobby is quite diversified and each member is free to follow the avenue of their choice. One of these avenues is to QSL, and another is not to QSL. I prefer to QSL each new station I hear, tho the cost is getting almost too high to continue. However, there are some in the hobby who seemingly have an unlimited supply of financial assets: they report and request QSLs for every frequency a station broadcasts on. Thus, if the VOA transmits on twenty different frequencies during a given schedule period, they will try to QSL each frequency, even if each was from the same site! The QSLs sent in reply cost money, as does to staff time spent in filling them out, not to mention the postage. Of course, there are those in our hobby who send a report and request the station to send them everything, including the kitchen sink. It's unfortunate, but true.

There is a solution to the dilemma--assuming that anyone but me gives a flying firetruck (read between the letters)? I think there is a solution, and the responsibility falls mainly on the broadcaster. Transmission schedules should be sent only on a one-time basis. If a listener wants a new schedule when the frequency period changes, then they would have to write and request it. An option might be to establish a "modest" fee for a one-year subscription to a station's schedule, but not at the unrealistic price set by the BBC. Aside from other radio stations, copies of the schedule could be sent to clubs and editors on a gratis basis. For most of us, frequency and program information is readily available in RIB or other bulletins. Still, I wouldn't object to paying a small fee each year to receive schedules from some stations.

As to the matter of QSL cards, the concept of the full-data (including transmitter site) verifications should be continued, or reinstituted (Are you listening BBC and DW?). However, cards should be issued only twice a year, possibly in summer and winter. QSL cards should be returned by surface mail unless the listener provides additional postage in the form of IRCs or mint stamps.

In summation, the aspect of our hobby relating to QSLs can be preserved by curtailing the waste prevalent in sending cards and schedules as a routine habit. Though not previously mentioned, pennants and other station "goodies" should be relegated to the station's DX club, if it has one, or to a similar group. They should be sent in exchange for a certain number of reports over a given period of time, or for a report which is of exceptional quality and value. Although the stations will have to implement these suggestions, we on the listening end will either have to learn to live with less station "goodies" or face the day when there will be no "goodies." Think about it. AR

MAIL TAMPERING (Beverly Slomka, NY) I just thought I'd update you on the problem of the tampering with my mail I mentioned some months back. First of all, I have firmly established that my foreign mail is being tampered with, and secondly, there is nothing I can do about it. Since I first wrote to you about it, the instances of unsealed or damaged envelopes increased sharply. Everything coming in from overseas, including mail from the BBC, has been tampered with. I began to accept this, but then became upset when I discovered that people were sending me things and I wasn't receiving them. In one case, two cassettes from someone I was taping for in the Handicapped Aid Program were never received. At that point, I began my complaint to my local post office, which recommended me to a postal inspector who heard my complaint, filled out a form for the missing tapes and then told me that as far as the foreign mail was concerned, nothing could be done to stop the alleged tampering since U.S. Customs were involved. I wonder how many other people have had this problem. AR

LISTENER INSIGHTS ON PROGRAMMING

V I E T N A M (Maxfield Greenwood, PA) The Predicament. Voice of Vietnam, 10080 kHz, SIO 534 at 1100 GMT. On the April 4 MAILBAG show, the VOV announced the number of entries to their "What do you know about Vietnam?" contest. The number was (I know you want to know this) 2240 entries received from 62 countries, or roughly 37 per country, or roughly one per 4 million people or roughly the number of letters Radio Australia receives from China every day. Now that is not too impressive, to be sure, but what does impress me is the honesty--however, one must balance that honesty with their report two days past the Reagan assassination [attempt] that, per the VOV, he was in serious mental and physical condition, and the US was in shaky condition from this critical situation (Reagan being in mental "gah-gah" ville and physically on the edge.) Well, so much for honesty, when it means something of larger proportion; but maybe they believed what they said, for the Vietnamese tend to read the world news upside-down, through edgy paranoid eyes--China above, the sky overhead and over 30 years of war can make any one-time child into a trigger-happy, nervous-eyed hard-case, who sees illusions as realities, and realities as illusions. On their mailbag show they read a letter asking what time is the best time to come to visit Vietnam. The young lady and gentleman announcers almost seemed embarrassed; I could almost hear them thinking, "Who comes to Vietnam to visit, as in vacation, vultures? No one comes to Vietnam!" Well, they chucked this around a bit, and finally said don't come between December and August, if you should come; come only in September, October or November. Having quickly eliminated their "tourist season" by 9 months, they then struggled on to say what one can do, if one did come to Vietnam. And here, I almost felt a sorrow, the sense of the tragedy that is Vietnam, for outside of your being able to sit in the tropic sun and sip cool drink, while you sweat (they actually used the word sweat), there doesn't seem to be much to do. And as for the other months, they're either too wet or too hot. Again, a disarming honesty, though by way of their MAILBAG hosts, and one worth writing to, to see what response you may get. They do pay a great attention to their mail, and start the show by saying how many letters they got during the week (56), and a rough demographic breakdown of from whence they came. One more comment, following a week of "higgly-piggly" monitoring of the Voice of Vietnam. On one show, their announcers, who generally seem to be ratherbland, and almost possessing a nervous meekness; were a touch emotive when they answered charges presented by the US & China (at the Bangkok conference on Kampuchea) that Vietnam was using chemical warfare against the forces of the Khmer Rouge. They, instead of merely charging that "those that live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones," after having detailed the use of chemical warfare by the US in Vietnam, and Cambodia (well-known and documented) and by China in the '79 border war (not well known, nor documented, as best I know), they went on and said in effect, how could they, who know first hand the nightmare and torment of being attacked many times by chemical warfare, ever, then use it against another. They closed this commentary by saying that the charges made by the US & China in Bangkok were vile slander. So, this leads one to say, do they speak truth, or do they lie? However, as in many cases in international broadcasting, unless there are neutral observers giving out facts, we are left as insignificant boobs, as bullshit gets cast hither and thither indiscriminately at us. And regards the international hucksters, such as the VOA and Radio Moscow and Cuba and so on; I feel like the rube in some carnival midway with one shill after another trying to get me to play his game, or see his naked ladies, and I realize I must keep my individual head firmly set, and walk straight through to the midway's end, or I shall find myself naked and hustled and saying "'twer there ever such a fool as I". No, I don't know if Vietnam is speaking truth, regards their being innocent of the charges of chemical warfare usage. No, I don't know, and I'm not going to attempt to decide; I'm just going to keep on walking, indifferent to the babbling voices, while I play my game, and play at my destiny--only pausing when such as Amnesty International or others I trust, give me hard facts.

But one intuitive sense I have is the World Politic is going to huckster the earth into its ultimate hell fire. For, as I carry this carnival/circus imagery to its completion: as P. T. Barnum said, "There's a sucker born every minute". And in the end, they'll be just suckers aplenty enough, oafishly joining one agressive faction after another, to bring Chicken Little's ole sky to finally a'falling down. But when it does, I am going to be somewhere in Thoreau's "Maine Woods", calmly a-fishing, self reliant to the end, and belonging to no hucksters, be they American, Russian or Vietnamese.

Listening to shortwave has brought home to me, more than ever; nothing is more of value than that one, she or he, who can stand alone. To paraphrase another, and past associate; I can find no fault with either he, she or it, that lives in a vault; and there are no truths outside the gates of Eden.

gh: Here, under Vietnam because it reflects more on them than the US or China, is Isao Ugusa's translation of an item in Nhan Dan, April 25, as appearing in his DX Front Line, May 17: "Chinese Expansionists Officially Accepted Ideology of Imperialism" Beijing ruling circles entered into the course to imperialistic ideology. In collusion with the US, they are to construct Voice of America's relay station in Guangzhou. VOA is a largest speaking-trumpet of mental war supporting the most depraved of the imperialism, and today they spit out venom all over the world. VOA is an extremely strong broadcasting network which is under direct control of the CIA. Beijing ruling circles, in collusion with

US imperialism, is to construct VOA's relay station in Guangzhou--and Guangdong is the place where had revolutionary uprising known as heroic struggle led by many communists. Beijing reactionaries are trying to betray people. Today VOA calls Chinese people to listen to voice of imperialism and directing their voice of the most filthy to the Indochinese Peninsula. Cooperating with Radio Beijing, they try to hostile to people of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, because revolutionary people are very stable and they love independence and freedom. Those who tried to conquer these people have always been exposed, and today as before any reactionaries will surely fail...."

(gh) This plan has already been denied by Peking, quoting a VOA official as well. However, subsequent events and revelations (US approval of military aid to China, and the already funxioning joint spy station on the USSR) make such a plan seem far more plausible.

V A T I C A N etc (Joseph Slomka, Brooklyn NY) About the pope's shooting, Radio Vaticana was in a state of shock. All they did on the North American broadcast was to simply give the brief details and play filler music for the remainder of the program. RCI was a surprisingly good source of information in the crisis period. Their reporting was very accurate in the midst of confusion. It was also surprising to hear Radio Polonia give detailed accounts of mass prayer in the public squares of Polish cities.

U S S R (Associated Press/David Minthorn) YAKUTSK (AP) You need two clocks just to stay on time in the vast, frozen expanses of Siberia. Airplanes and trains run on Moscow time, hours behind local time, and Siberian officials have to keep a constant eye on the clock to track the workday in the Soviet capital, the center of national decision-making.

From the Bering Strait in the Soviet Far East to the Baltic republics in the west, the Soviet Union stretches across almost 6,000 miles, encompassing eleven time zones. With nine time zones east of the Ural Mountains alone, the limit of European Russia, timekeeping is uniquely complicated in Siberia, a frigid region of mind-boggling proportions. Siberia is as big as the U.S. and half of Canada put together, but the population is only 26 million, according to 1970 Soviet figures.

Jet-lag can be a big problem. An eight- or ten-hour flight that never leaves the confines of Soviet territory causes havoc with the body's biological clock, causing sleeplessness and the blahs for a week or more. In winter, a jetliner journey from the relatively mild temperatures of the western Soviet Union to the dry polar cold of Siberia, or vice versa, can also bring on head colds or the flu.

Siberians have learned to live with dislocations like these: Moscow's main evening TV news program beamed by satellite to the east is already out of date by the time it is shown in Siberia the following morning. The Siberian edition of Pravda, the leading Soviet communist daily, is a day or more late reaching Yakutsk, a regional capital of 180,000 population near the Arctic Circle. The newspaper is essential political reading for Soviet officials, but deliveries sometimes take days because of snowbound towns at the height of winter. Airports and rail depots flash the time on illuminated clocks, but arrivals and departures are always given by Moscow via computers that control all travel from the Soviet capital. Even plane and train tickets issued locally bear Moscow times, requiring travelers to make their own adjustments for local time. Flip on Soviet radio for hourly news broadcasts from Moscow, and the announcer always gives the time of day in the Soviet capital. Siberians are also used to hearing all important times, such as launches or returns of Soviet cosmonauts, quoted in Moscow time.

Some observers believe the Moscow time has a unifying effect on the far-flung population, suggesting the heart-beat of the Soviet capital is the same for all citizens despite the huge distances. But it still creates problems for these citizens. A Soviet official in Mirny, the diamond capital of the U.S.S.R., an hour's flight from Yakutsk, said he had to rise at 4 a.m. to telephone his daughter studying in Moscow, six time zones to the west.

He said, "It's because 10 p.m. is the only time I can be sure of reaching her at her dormitory." (The Time Is Out Of Joint in the U.S.S.R., AP 27 March 1981). AR

(James E. McDonald, Jr., Ardmore PA) When a major news story breaks out, forget about Radio Moscow's World and North American services for up to the minute coverage. The day the president's attempted assassination occurred, I tuned in to Radio Moscow to hear the Soviet reaction. All I got was a summary that the president was shot, while coming out of the Hilton Hotel in Washington. This wasn't even their top news story. Then I tuned in after the tragic news about the Pope to hear again Soviet reaction. To my dismay it didn't even make the headlines. Instead there was a story about the Soviet airline being held at Dulles International. I know the media is state-controlled in the USSR, but stories like these affect the whole world. I shouldn't be too hard on Radio Moscow. After all, they were the first station I ever heard. The first station to answer questions over the air which I submitted to them and the first station to send me a QSL card. That was five years ago. And the other day they did send me some Soviet stamps, which I appreciated.

(Mike Tripka, OH) I've occasionally run across Radio Station Peace & Progress in Haitian Creole, at 0130. Having studied French for five years, it is not difficult to understand. It seems that in Haiti, however, few people would be able to afford SW receivers, and those who could would be educated & understand French (it's harder for French speakers to understand Creole). This effort is wasted.

(Wayne Pierce, Oroville CA) Where else do you get radio information about geology, climate, natural history (plants and animals), and diverse peoples living in one of the largest nations on our globe? Much of Radio Moscow's programming really does give this information, which exists as a reality with or without propaganda interpretation. The repeat of the news on the hour, while bothersome to me when I want an adrenalin "hit" of some "new crisis", has several positive points--on second listening, I often pick out finer points that I missed when I first centered on the main items. This also is a listening reality despite propaganda biases. The news repeats show by example how RM views the seriousness of its programming, how, maybe, to produce one good show rather than four mediocre ones. The news repeats also give me an idea of how "dull" a peaceful world would be. Ha, I mean...what's to get excited about and how come they don't have every little item thrown in to keep us upset; worried--not that the serious issues they do report on can't produce the same effect. To give some feedback to those who constantly malign RM for "propaganda" as if that word was to be a critical statement by or to other RIBers, I suggest these people, somehow, look at their world from a different perspective and in the process notice if RM (and every other station) isn't reporting from its own streetcorner as well. There is of course no better way to armchair visit and expand that horizon of perspective on Russia, Spain, or South Africa than SWLing, and those who tune in RM just long enough to get sick of it will eventually learn that some of what they say is true and worthy of human respect and action. V. Posner and J. Adamov often do have just points and perspectives. They do have much to be proud of in their culture and society, just as every reporter and newsperson does by virtue of their human existence. I don't believe everything I hear on RM, but I do believe they say it. The point is, that to discuss the opinions, RIBers must know what they are, and RM gives them plenty of airspace. I write this as I get tired of monthly reports in RIB devoted to RM putdowns.

(The Guardian, April 19, via Doug Thompson, MI)

The voice of Moscow

by Jonathan Steele

HE IS a unique breed — a Russian who is mistaken for an American almost everywhere he goes outside the Soviet Union. In shops, restaurants or pubs they assume from Vladimir Pozner's flawless American English that he must be the real McCoy. The fun starts when he drops the first clue. He is buying a sweater for his wife in Moscow. No, the weather is not so bad. At least it's warmer than at home in the Soviet Union.

Incredulity is the first reaction. When they accept that he really is Russian, the questions flow, "Can you really live there? Do you really want to go back?" On this first visit to London, he saw little sign of any English reserve. People came out with the most direct inquiries straight off. Their attitude was no different from that of other Westerners he has encountered.

"They seem to think they know a lot about us. You know there was an English teacher who once went to the United States and did a survey of American attitudes on various things, including their view of the Soviet Union. He made a very interesting remark. He said they knew about as much about it as they know about Mars."

To which Pozner says he would add that while Americans would admit they knew little about Mars, they think they know everything about the Soviet Union. "They think they know that we are poor, that life is terrible, that we are oppressed, and that we all kind of dream of being carried out of the Soviet Union hidden in a suitcase."

Pozner is perhaps the most sophisticated propagandist for the Soviet cause that anyone could find. His mother is French and his father was a Soviet citizen who worked with Metro Goldwyn Mayer in New York during the troubled Thirties and the war. The family returned to Moscow in the Fifties, by which time young Vladimir had had an American high school education.

He went into journalism, first with the Soviet press agency, Novosti, and moved into broadcasting in 1970. Now he has a daily five-minute commentary slot on Radio Moscow's service beamed to the United States.

Because of his command of the language, he has frequently appeared on American television. He is in England now for a two-part debate on BBC1's Platform One programme with Robert Kaiser of the Washington Post. The first concerns Soviet foreign policy; the second, the Soviet way of life.

As one might expect, Pozner is a skilful speaker who knows when to give a little ground, if only to move back into the attack more strongly. He is prepared to make mild criticisms of his own system, though usually only of a vague, general nature and with the plea: "Give us time. Socialism was not built in a day. We are learning."

In an interview in his hotel, he said one of the main problems in East-West relations was the mutual misunderstanding. Most people's image of the Soviet Union in the West was "black and white, and there's not much white at that". They take it for granted that whatever the Soviet Union does is a sort of aggression.

"You know, I sometimes think that if this was 1776 today, and the Soviet Union already existed, the American government would see our hand behind the struggle for independence and they would support the British crown."

Asked to give some examples of Soviet misconceptions about the West, Pozner hesitates and then provides two. One is that Russians tend to accept American election rhetoric as reality. They find it hard to understand how American policy works. The other is they believe that if an American President signs something like the second agreement on strategic arms control (SALT II) this means that it is certain to be ratified. Interesting examples of misunderstanding, because when you look at them, Pozner is not being self-critical but only finding an oblique way of criticising the Americans again.

Significantly, though, he came close to a specific criticism of Soviet policy on one of the touchiest current issues — Afghanistan. From the point of view of expedience the despatch of Soviet troops had not outweighed the costs. "We know it's been used very strongly against us. For certain forces in the United States it was a godsend and a way of putting a roadblock in the way of detente."

In addition, many countries had turned away from the Soviet Union. From that point of view it had not been worthwhile. "From the point of view of our principles, and our basic ideas about society, we had no choice."

(Jack Curtis, Hampshire, WDXC Contact, April) I asked for a couple of musical items to be played, and received an airmail reply with impressive QSL stating that my request would be played 3.3.81 in MUSIC AT YOUR REQUEST. This was a wrong date for that Sunday program; they did it so I'd listen several times. My requests were eventually played Sunday March 8. I had asked for part of Tchaikovsky's first piano concerto and with tongue in cheek I asked for Shirley Bassey singing "Goldfinger". In fact they gave me some ten minutes with a Russian painist and full orchestra playing the entire first movement. They never played "Goldfinger" and I didn't really expect them to. Probably their library isn't that up to date.

(Sandra Manning, Old Laguna NM) On Lenin's memorial day, April 21, Radio Kiev had one of their top party members talk about him. So did R Moscow in the prior half hour--about Lenin's attempts to maintain peace with that capitalistic US, which was not as interested in peace. Interesting, their side.

(John Pascoe, WA) (Above the F layer)--I was excited to learn that the Soviets are broadcasting direct from satellites on UHF-TV channels. When first viewing this development, I saw a unique way to utilize many UHF channels that are never used. After some thought, I have concluded that this type of DBS will probably not evolve much beyond this point. Firstly, as gh alluded, the thought of Dan Rather showing the Soviet people what is happening in Afghanistan would prevent the Soviets from trying this to North America. As for domestic DBS on UHF, it seems that the Satellite TV Corp has an early monopoly on DBS, and is awaiting FCC approval to begin offering DBS in the 12 GHz satellite band. Thus, the expanse of UHF channels will continue to be used for remote translator service, local, PBS, and in some areas network programming. Strike one up for good ole Russian ingenuity, anyway. For more on DBS see May Popular Electronics.

gh: Since the 'footprint' of a satellite at UHF is almost an entire hemisphere, any DBS on UHF starting now would be bound to interfere with existing ground stations in the western hemisphere, mainly the US, where every UHF TV channel has some stations on it (except 37, reserved for radio astronomy). Is TV really that much more powerful a medium than radio? The Soviets feel as free to broadcast on radio to the west, as vice versa, though they reserve the right to jam incoming signals.

U S A (Broadcasting, April 13, via Ellis Hart, Bob Shrader, David W. Harris, Bob Foxworth, the clipping at right) (David W Harris, Boston MA) Re Joe Hanlon's call for increased VOA programming to Pol- and (April RIB), I don't think this is necessary. Tho VOA provides much domestic news coverage for target areas elsewhere in the world (English-language listeners know this is the case with the Africa service), it would be redundant for VOA to provide a similar service in its language broadcasts to Eastern Europe; it is Radio Free Europe's job to serve as an alternative domestic service for this part of the world. VOA broadcasts to eastern Europe are basically supposed to limit themselves to covering life & thought in the USA. RFE already broadcasts 19 hours in Polish daily (7 first run, and 12 of repeats). (Richard Lantz, New York NY) Note that some VOA programs on 1580 kHz are only for the Caribbean and not carried on SW. I hope the Caribbean service will be added to SW for better coverage. And they should list transmitter sites on their program schedules to help listeners find the best frequency for them.

Malta ousts American

VALLETTA, Malta (AP) — Maltese police have accused Roy Heienecke, a retired American correspondent for the Voice of America, of being a CIA agent, and have ordered him and his wife to leave the country. He has denied the charge.

(Louisville Courier-Journal, May, via Ken MacHarg, IN)

RADIO BROADCASTERS

SALARY $15,193 AND UP

The Voice of America in Washington DC has openings for writers, translators, adaptors and announcers in Azeri, Uzbek, Russian, Ukrainian, Armenian and Georgian languages. Applicants with fluency in one of these languages and in English may call:

212-399-5605 between 9AM & 5PM, April 27, 28 and 29 and ask for Michael Terpak.

(NY Times Apr 26 via Ed Stone, NY)

ENGLISH TO THE CARIBBEAN

EST	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	EST	Meter	kHz
Med Wave 7:00	News and Topical Report	CARIBBEAN REPORT					News	7:00		
7:15 Med Wave	Critic's Choice						This Week	7:10		
7:00 Short Wave	News in Special English	NEWS (Special English) FEATURES					News in Special English	7:00	*16.9	17730
7:15	Critic's Choice						This Week	7:10	19.7 *25.6	15205 11740
7:30 Medium & Short Wave Until 11:00	Spotlight	THE MAGAZINE SHOW					New York, New York	7:30	31.1 *48.6 50.0	9650 6130 5995
8:00	News and New Products	REPORT TO THE AMERICAS					W E E K E N D	8:00	Medium Wave 1580 *7-9 p.m.	
8:15	New Horizons									
8:30	Studio One									
9:00	Music USA Standards	CONTEMPORARY MUSIC USA					Country Music USA	9:00		
		Music USA Standards	Now Music USA	Now Music USA	Now Music USA	Music on my Mind				
9:30	Issues in the News	DATELINE					Press Conference USA	9:30		
10:00		VOA NEWS ROUNDUP						10:00		
10:15	The Concert Hall	JAZZ MUSIC USA						10:00		

Radio ratings behind Iron Curtain

Radio Free Europe is the most listened-to non-Soviet-bloc radio service in Eastern Europe, according to a survey of listening habits in that region in 1979-80 conducted by 10 European polling institutions, including the London-based Gallup International.

It shows that one-half of the adult population there listens to RFE regularly, while the Voice of America and the BBC, the next most popular services, each commands one-fifth of the Eastern Europe audience, according to the survey.

RFE is tailored to provide news of Eastern European countries, while its companion, Radio Liberty, broadcasts news of the Soviet Union. The two are run by RFE/RL, a nonprofit, private corporation funded by congressional grants furnished through the Board for International Broadcasting.

The Listening to Western Radio in East Europe survey rates Western radio services received in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria. It shows that almost 75% of East Europeans listen to Western broadcasts and that the typical listener tunes in to two stations.

RFE must contend with jamming in a number of the countries where it is received. For instance, jamming is heavy in Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria, where RFE's audience is 38% and 34% respectively, and intermittent in Poland where its audience is over 50%.

Jamming by the Soviet Union and other Eastern bloc countries continues to pose problems for the American services, Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty as well.

In its annual report to Congress, RFE/RL said that while the BBC and the Voice of America were free from jamming from 1973 to 1980, Radio Liberty (which broadcasts to the Soviet Union) has been jammed continuously since 1953, while Radio Free Europe is jammed continuously in Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria, and less effectively in Poland.

The financial statement showed that the two services received more than $90 million through annual congressional grant in 1980, and incurred a loss of just over $5 million. It projected that by fiscal year 1982, the annual budget will exceed $100 million.

(Beverly Slomka, Brooklyn NY) VOA conducts three 45-minute tours in the morning and one or two during the afternoon. My husband and I caught the third morning tour at 10:45 a.m. To emphasize the popularity of SW in the US, there were a total of four people on our tour--my husband and I and two almost elderly ladies who came to VOA because their congressman had suggested it as an interesting place to visit. Before the tour began we were seated before a window through which we could see the master control, where two or three people did antenna and program switching. The two ladies with us were fascinated by the controls and also by the scope of the VOA as indicated by two large maps on either side of this window. Our tour director was pleasant enough, but with the third tour of the morning she sounded as if she were reading a script through quickly and began several times to repeat herself and then apologize. While it was interesting for me to see a shortwave station actually in operation, I must admit the tour did not tell me anything I did not already know, except for a few surprising facts --both had to do with news gathering and reporting. According to our tour guide, VOA has a 'two source' policy before news is reported. That is, they have to hear the story from two different sources first. I thought that two sources was rather a small amount (I believe the BBC has a 'five source policy'). The other thing that surprised me (and my husband particularly) was the use of three televisions tuned to each major network for monitoring purposes. While our guide mentioned that they rarely if ever, had any news leads from a network first, they do stay tuned to the three networks to catch any possible breaking news. Maybe I'm wrong, but I just can't imagine TV networks being first to pick up any major story. With respect to news monitoring, I thought that VOA had a link up with the BBC Monitoring Service. If this is so, nothing was ever mentioned of them. They reported their chief sources as AP, UPI and a French news agency. Our tour guide did learn I was an avid SWL, and she offered me some program guides. However, we were a little disappointed in the tour, and even the two ladies with us seemed to lose interest after a bit.

(George Munz, NJ) May 19 at 0015 on 6130, VOA's THIS IS AMERICA with Kay Gallant and Harry Monroe dealt with American radio, with lots of statistics. Since VOA is a SW broadcaster I was waiting for some mention of SW which surprised me since this is the only way I know to hear VOA. Only AM and FM were mentioned. However, a good interesting program. gh: Even VOA does not take SW seriously as a medium in the US, it seems.

(Ellis Hart, Cincinnati OH) Add me to the (hopefully) growing body of listeners who would love to hear gh's WORLD OF RADIO on the VOA. I heard the program while passing through Knoxville, and I think it would be a tremendous representative of USA SWL/DX....

One of the finest information/news programs I've ever heard on radio must be NPR's MORNING EDITION, Monday-Friday 1000-1200 on AFRTS on 6030 and 15330 among other frequencies. A great mix of hard news, features, sports, and personality profiles, all engagingly blended by host/anchor Bob Edwards. I would really like for MORNING EDITION to become a 7-day-a-week affair, with shorter weekend versions like its parent program ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, but with all the proposed budgetary cutbacks set to wipe out most if not all of NPR's news commitments, it sure doesn't appear likely.

(Ed Stone, NY) Was surprised to read some time back that Ken MacHarg felt that MORNING EDITION was wearing thin. Their quality seems to be rather consistently high. But I have noticed an "East Coast Intelligencia" bias. Sounds like it was produced in NYC; maybe a bit too slick? They recently interviewed someone who had tried "zoom"--that legal cocaine substitute. He described his experiences, and compared it to other drugs. Would you call that glamorizing drug use? The story was timely, but still! If I were a station manager, I'd feature that in a factual news story, but not in an interview or feature. I'd be a bit uneasy about any other treatment.

(Real Times, Bloomington IN, Apr 8, via Richard Griscom, IN)

Jolly Roger Considers Option

The members of Bloomington's celebrated pirate radio station. Jolly Roger Radio, are currently considering an olive branch offered to them recently by George Sklom of the Chicago office of the FCC. After receiving a statement from the pirates in which they gave a spirited and principled defense of their operation and of alternative radio in general, Sklom's office deferred the usual $750 fine for the November 10th bust of JR and sent them the FCC form 301 application for a broadcast station permit.

While the Jolly Rogers weigh this offer and all the legal-bureaucratic steps that would be required to re-float their vessel as a legally licensed broadcast station on the FM band, trade press reports continue to come in praising the professionalism and quality of their pirate broadcasts. Shortwave programs in England and Holland broadcasted Jolly Roger's story while renowned international radio critic C. M. Stanbury, writing in the *Small Press Review* (Sept. 1980) in North America.

Jolly Roger's Halloween broadcast on FM, AM, and S W Stanbury writes, was "The most artistically sophisticated bootleg broadcast ever." Local listeners who remember the news parodies, FCC satires, and world music will certainly agree. Letters of encouragement as well as donations for the legal licensing effort can be sent to Jolly Roger Radio c/o P O Box 2414 Bloomington IN 47401. *(S. A. Serrano)*

(William Dang, Calgary Alta) I read in the latest issue of WYFR Family Radio News that they plan to start up a shortwave service to western Canada. My receiver dreads the thought of being pounded by 50 db over S9 signals from Florida. WYFR's eastern Canada beam already puts in a 20 over S9 signal on 5985, making reception of TGMUA Union Radio, and Radio RSA on 5980 marginal at best. When this new service starts up, it will be a case of "another one (or two) bites the dust" as a couple of other RIBers have previously mentioned. Maybe WYFR's technical and programming departments sense that there are a sufficient number of "unwashed heathens" with $29.95 K-mart-special short wave receivers to warrant such an expansion of their services.

(WYFR Open Forum schedule; what garbage!)

AUGUST

1 Sat (478) Can single men be deacons or elders in the church?
3 Mon (479) What does it mean to bind Satan? Can a Christian bind Satan?
5 Wed (480) What can we use to help us study the Bible?
7 Fri (481) Is suicide possible for a believer?
8 Sat (482) Can a professional athlete live to the glory of God?
10 Mon (483) Does the Holy Spirit speak to us today?
12 Wed (484) What does the Bible say about a woman's role in the ministry?
14 Fri (485) Is God married to Israel?
15 Sat (486) Where does the idea of rewards and crowns come from?
17 Mon (487) Why does God allow some people to go to Hell?
19 Wed (488) Can't we ask God for guidance and expect Him to answer us in a special way?
21 Fri (489) What did Jesus mean when He said that if we have faith as a mustard seed we will be able to move mountains?
22 Sat (490) In Genesis 6:12, who are the sons of God?
24 Mon (491) What role does the Holy Spirit play today?
26 Wed (492) Is it all right for a Christian to be indebted to another person?
28 Fri (493) Did Jesus Christ pay for the sins of all mankind?
29 Sat (494) What is the covenant?
31 Mon (495) Why do the Godly suffer?

SEPTEMBER

2 Wed (496) Can the Bible become an idol?
4 Fri (497) Please explain Revelation 13:10 and Luke 21:19 concerning the last days.
5 Sat (498) Am I to confess my sins to another believer?

(Ed Stone, NY) WOR 710 broadcast the week of April 6, all the way from London--gee whiz! What'll they think of next--maybe one day people will be able to tune in to stations all over the world. They'll have to think of a name for it--er, "shortwave radio," or something like that. Gee. Some day, I guess. Seriously, a worthy effort. They made quite a big deal out of broadcasting from London to NY. What should BBC say? Also: if they got good rating would listeners like to travel abroad by radio every day? SW radio manufacturers' marketing people: take note!

(David W Harris, Boston MA) It was the RAMBLING WITH GAMBLING morning show from London via satellite with the cooperation of Capital Radio. Chief sponsor was TWA (who do you suppose flew the WOR crew over there?), but Harrods also bot a few spots, marking the famous department store's first venture into advertising on US airwaves. GH guessed wrong in response to Mike Tripka's April RIB observation that WCLV Cleveland was airing the HITCHHIKER's GUIDE. BBC did not sell the series to commercial stations in the USA, but a few stations with transatlantic connexions got ahold of the two-record set based on the show. The album contains approximately two hours of highlights from the radio series. Last November/December WCLV Cleveland and WCRB Waltham-Boston were airing parts of it on Saturday night, and WBCN Boston on Sunday mornings. I'm sure a few other commercial stations around the country have used the album. Listeners in the Cleveland and Boston areas, by the way, may be interested in tuning in the Saturday night programs on WCLV (95.5 MHz) and WCRB (102.5); around midnight local time (give or take a half hour) they usually carry a classic BBC comedy show like THE GOON SHOW or I'M SORRY I'LL READ THAT AGAIN on a rotating basis.

(Mike Tripka, Highland Heights OH) A number of local ethnic organizations made quite a lot of protest recently when WZAK (FM) Cleveland, 93.1 MHz, shifted from a format of half foreign language programs and half "international music", to disco/soul. The usual complaint was against the loss of the only local source of foreign language radio. This raises a question. With the many hours of non-English transmissions to the US by overseas stations, how many people are really listening? How many even know of the existence of such broadcasts? Not many, at least in Cleveland. Although public awareness of international radio does seem to be taking small steps forward, nine out of ten people still don't know the difference between SWLs, radio amateurs and CBers (much to the irritation of hams who have long resented being classed with the "Crazy Bunch"). Anyone who has compared amateur operation, even on noisy and crowded 40 meters, with the garbage that clogs "one-nine", will readily understand. The hobby is not that technically incomprehensible anymore. It's just that many of us have been keeping it too much to ourselves.

gh: From CBS Radio comes this news: On SPECTRUM from June 16, Peter Moraga replaces vacationing Roger Wilkins for three weeks; liberal Moraga is publisher of Latinograma and Hispanic Heritage Week, and has worked for the VOA. A new cooking series premieres Monday June 29, JAMES BEARD'S KITCHEN, 2½ minute daily programs. God, what disrespect the nets have for our attention spans... but NBC has some 1½ minute "programs". There'll be 260 of these--which of course means a year's run, 5 per week.

As for CBS RADIO MYSTERY THEATER, this is the lineup for the week of July 6: Mon 6, "My Good Name" Tammy Grimes--there may be more to the murder of famous designer than it appears [sic]. Tue 7, "Stampede", Jennifer Harmon--an ambitious rancher in post-Civil War Texas plans the first cattle drive north. Wed 8, "Death and the Dreamer", Mandel Kramer. General Giuseppi [sic] Garibaldi languishes in New York thinking he no longer can free Italy. Thu 9, "The Fatal $50,000", Mandel Kramer & Marian Seldes. A hard-driving businessman is haunted by the death of a man he fired. Fri 10, "A Man of Honor", John Beal & Teri Keane. An author suffers an incapacitating breakdown at the peak of his career.

U K O G B A N I (gh) Due to an early deadline this month, we can't carry the usual extensive BBC program information; however, much of the information in the last few issues carries over into August. Among some long term plans that are known, for early August--CLASSIC SERIAL starts a new series Aug 10 --In Remembrance of Things Past, by Proust, Mon 0830 & 1615, Fri 2330. A 5-program talk series, NEW BRITONS starts Aug 9, Sat 0815, Sun 2100, Mon 0315, Thurs 1115. Features, Sun 1830, Mon 1345, Wed at 0230: Aug 2, Vaccination, Aug 9 The Berlin Wall, Aug 16 Is Medicine Necessary. Features Mon 0100, Tues 2030, Fri 1330: Week of Aug 3 Shakespeare Lady, about actress Fanny Kemble; Aug 10 Proust Now; Aug 17 Brecht and the English Theatre, Aug 24 The Only Living Genius (Salvador Dali), Aug 31, Conversations with Menuhin. Want a BBC WORLD SERVICE bumper sticker? They're free on request from John Hoban, Publicity Officer, English Services, at Bush House. The US version says Morning 31m Evening 49

U N I T E D A R A B E M I R A T E S (Tony W Campbell, Waynesboro VA) A new program in the Arab Culture series, THE ARABS IN HISTORY was heard on UAE Radio, Dubai on 15320 June 8 at 0342-0358, after the 0330 news. It dealt with the Arabic language. Several Arabic poems were also read, translated into English of course! I'd suggest any SWL who is interested in Arabic culture and history to give a listen to this program. You may learn something you don't already know!

S U R I N A M (via WWDXC) Part of Radio Apintie's Programme Schedule Which Might Be Of Interest To Our Friends Abroad: Monday 0230-0330 CLASSICAL PROGRAMME. Tuesday 0230-0430 SWING LOW IN FULL STEREC --100% music with universal character. In this programme, music has no boundaries, especially between classical and non-classical music. Announcements are kept to a strict minimum. Also Wed 0230-0430, Thu 0230-0430, Fri 0230-0430, Sat 0230-0430, Sun 0330-0430. Thursday, Friday & Saturday: 0430, a special request programme where you can phone in your request, tel.: 97950 for your favorite song or record. A programme projected on every one working late at night, i.e. nurses, waiters, police, etc., etc., even you abroad! 0530-0630 GRAN MORGOE (Good Morning), A programme for the late workers at night providing information such as news, horoscope, humor, mixed with local- and South American, music. Also meant for the Surinamers abroad. Daily sign-on at 0830 GMT with program in Hindi [5006 kHz]

S P A I N (Charley Hoffman, Manheim PA) On June 14, Spanish Foreign Radio broadcast a letter from a concerned listener who heard rumors that SFR English Service would soon be dropped. The unknown male announcer's reply: Due to financial problems around Christmas things did look uncertain, but for now it looks like we'll stay on the air. They mentioned that a little over 100 listeners wrote in, concerned about the fate of the English service.

S O U T H A F R I C A (John Dommisse, VA) In the May issue, Wolfson tries to teach his grandmother how to suck eggs when he proceeds to give me, a 10th-generation "white-skinned African" native of South Africa, a history lesson about my own people! He asks that we stop making political statements in RIB. That would require restrictions on all comment on content (SWLing) as much SW content is political, especially from RSA.

GH has admitted (the the same issue, under "Netherlands") that RIB is subjective, not objective, and of course that's true. I think it is the Talmud that states something to the effect that we do not see things as they are but as we are. So simple, yet so profound. Therefore, when Wolfson thinks that Vcelar "has a better idea of what's going on in South Africa" than I do, that R. RSA's biasedness is no "big deal," that South Africa "has a democratically elected parliament that expresses the will of its people," and that what I say about the political situation there is "ridiculous nonsense," it is possible that he is revealing more about himself than about the state of black-white relations in South Africa. That is why our arguments become "ad hominem" (personally critical). I'm content for history to be the judge of who is right.

In the mean time, the recognition of our subjectivity will enhance our understanding and our objectivity. We should ask ourselves what our motivations are for the various viewpoints we put forth. It is ironic, just on the face of it, that a Jewish person (presumably) should jump so stalwartly to the support of possibly the world's most Nazi-like country, just a generation after the Holocaust. And that Israel should be the country in all the world that is friendliest with South Africa, with ministerial, military, economic, sporting and cultural exchanges like South Africa has with no other country. The present South African government supported Hitler during World War II.

How does our monetary and other self-interest influence our perception and judgement of shortwave reporting? These questions are to me more important than simple and concrete reporting and commentary of "facts" or opinions.

Judging by his remarks in the April RIB, it would not bother Munster, for example, that both the new and immediate-past Directors of the SABC are members of the secret sectional ethnic minority organization that runs South Africa. Why not? Perhaps, as in the case of the present U.S. Administration's support for the rightwing Salvadorean military junta that is slaughtering its own people, we are less interested in democracy or "the will of the people" and should at least be as honest as President Truman (I believe) was when questioned about American support for dictators in South America, and he replied with something like "Yes, but they're our dictators!"

In previous issues I have made clear what my motivations are for listening to R. RSA (among them, to refute the lies and distortions it puts out, where and when I can, and to support the liberation of my native land). Perhaps some of the rest of us can be as candid.

If colonialism can be seen as a concept encompassing a broader meaning than the subjugation of an entire people by recent settlers, it must be clear that the present regime in South Africa is practicing it actively, within its own borders (especially in the so-called "homeland" areas of Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, Ciskei, etc.) and is also extending it to "Southwest Africa"/Namibia, in defiance of the UN Security Council (1971, and subsequent Resolution 435) and of international law (World Court opinion, The Hague, 1966). AR

(WDXC via WWDXC) In a recent re-shuffling of govt depts control of the SABC has been transferred from the Dept of National Education to the Dept of Foreign Affairs and Information. This has led the op-

position party, PFP, to express its fears that the transfer will lead to greater use of Radio and TV for propaganda purposes. One MP, Dr Alex Boraine, said the move had an "ominous ring" about it in view of past govt attempts to control the media and the desire of Prime Minister, Pieter Botha, to extend his control over every area of South African life.

(Paul Walton, WDXC Contact) Anyone who enjoys modern African music may like the programme on Radio RSA Dutch service called TOWNSHIP SOUNDS, Mondays around 1720 GMT. You may also get the chance to hear the voice of ex DX JUKEBOX presenter Frits Greveling who now works for Radio RSA.

P O R T U G A L (Richard E Wood, Cape Girardeau MO) In over twenty years of listening to Radio Portugal, I had never heard the station crack a joke or say anything humorous, until 2040 on June 14 on 21700 kHz. The first glimmer of humor was then noted, in a historical note on the first importation of marijuana to Europe. King João I of Portugal, the announcer said, brought the weed to Portugal, not for its hallucinogenic effects, but in the unsuccessful hope that the leaves could be processed into rigging for his ships. The speaker, in his usual dead-pan voice, called it his "dope-to-rope" project. gh: I gather this must have been in English, not scheduled on that frequency.

N E W Z E A L A N D (Dale Park, HI, SPEEDX) For game show fans, RNZ presents the BBC's JUST A MINUTE at 0700 GMT Wednesdays. Try 11945 and 15485.

(Joel Rubin, CA) The time of NZ CALLING can vary a bit--depending on the domestic service. On GMT May 18, a program about breast cancer delayed it until 0330; on June 1 it began at 0314. At the latter date, the frequencies announced were 17860 and 11945--maybe they've dropped down for winter and the telemetry. Co-channel QRM on 17860 from VOA in English, but not too bad, here. gh: I think the 11945 mention referred to the repeat airing at 1015.

N E T H E R L A N D S (Joe Hanlon, PA) I hope RN could hold its phone-in program at 0230 the next time they schedule it. I did not hear the May 31 0530 transmission because it was the middle of the night here in the EDT zone. Only a few people in the east would be able to stay up to make a call to Hilversum. At 0230 they would receive listener response from all of North America.

(Bob Underdown, AR) I used to be disgusted, but now I'm simply amazed. I've just finished listening to MEDIA NETWORK. It sounds as if they're trying to inherit listeners of the late WRC. Come on, now-I enjoyed the old DX JUKE BOX with gh tremendously. The new format might satisfy those who miss WRC, since it sounds almost like a carbon copy, but I'm definitely not satisfied. Don't get me wrong, I think there's a place for a DX program "catering to the more technically minded," but I'm not sure this couldn't have been done without dumping the lighter format I've enjoyed for years.

J A P A N (gh) Some Radio Japan highlights for July, from Radio Japan News)

Japan Today

July 8: Plan to Eliminate the Deficits in the Operation of JNR's Local Lines

Japanese National Railways – JNR – has been steadily raising its fares over the last several years; but there still seems to be a long way to go to make up the enormous deficits, said to exceed 1,000 billion yen a year. In a desperate efforts to reorganize their management, in addition to raising fares, JNR has decided to close down deficit-ridden local lines by 1985, as well as changing higher fares on the other 175 local lines, whose operations have not been very lucrative.

Since the JNR trains are an indispensable means of transport for the people who live in the depopulated parts of the country, however, there has been strong opposition to this decision which JNR has made with only itself in mind.

In the program there are interviews with people in the areas affected by the abolition of local lines, as well as with the JNR authorities. The question of, how to put JNR back on its feet again by eliminating its steadily increasing deficits, is also examined.

July 15: Campaign to Bring the Salmon Back to Japanese Rivers

According to ancient chronicles large numbers of salmon used to travel up most of the rivers in the north of the Japanese Archipelago.

For a long while, however, salmon stopped coming up the rivers except in some parts of Hokkaido. But in the last few years, a steadily increasing number of salmon has began to reappear in many rivers. Encouraged by this phenomenon an active campaign is being conducted to bring the fish back to their rivers.

Salmon are spawned in rivers, grow up in the sea and then return to their native rivers to spawn. So if a river is stocked with tens of millions of salmon fry, which have been artificially hatched, there is a strong possibility that having grown up at sea they will return to the self-same river again. So local people near the Ura River in Kyoto, the Shinano River which flows to the Japan Sea, the Toyohira River in Sapporo, Hokkaido, etc., are now actively conducting a campaign to stock their rivers with salmon fry every year.

The program describes how these campaigns are spreading to various parts of Japan, paying particular attention to the activities of the Sapporo Salmon Association.

July 22: The Fifth Year of the 200 Mile Fishing Limit

Five years have passed since the system of the 200 Mile Fishing Limit was set up to control random fishing by foreign fishermen and preserve marine resources.

Japan's deep-sea fishing, which used to claim an annual catch of 4 million tons of fish, has rapidly declined to less than 2 million tons.

The important problem to be solved by Japan's deep-sea fishing in future lies in how to successfully conduct joint operations with other countries. Japan has already adopted dragnet fishing, cultivating shrimps, and processing marine products in joint enterprises with 52 countries.

The program describes some of these joint enterprises, the present situation of the Japanese fishing industry five years after the setting up of the 200 Mile Fishing Limit and considers prospects for the future.

July 29: The Price of Rice and the Food Control System

The Food Control System in Japan was established in 1942 during the war, so that there would be fair distribution of food among people who were in dire straits. The government forced farmers to sell their rice in order to ration it so that the people could buy it at reasonable prices. However, emphasis today seems to have shifted how protecting the consumers, to protecting the rice farmers. The government is now buying rice from the farmers at high prices and selling it to the public at lower prices. The loss the government makes on the food control account comes to 75 billion yen every year, running up to the astronomical total of 7 trillion yen.

Now that the urgency of the food crisis is being recognized throughout the world, there has been pressure from various quarters in Japan to reexamine the existing food control system.

The program explains the food control system in easy terms, and picks out its crucial points. It presents the opinions of farmers and consumers, as well as the viewpoints of those concerned with the administration of agriculture.

Programs for July

〈 The schedule is subject to change owing to circumstances. 〉

One in a Hundred Million

July 6: A Judo Champion — Mr. Yasuhiro Yamashita (25)

Mr. Yamashita. a fifth grade Judo player, is considered the ace in the Japanese Judo world, which has recently been overwhelmed by groups of foreigners. He is recognized as the strongest in the 95 kilogram class and the non-differentiated world class.

Mr. Yamashita was born in Kumamoto prefecture in Kyushu. He has dreamed of becoming the strongest Judo player in the world since he was at primary school. He won five consecutive international championships including one in April this year, in which he decisively defeated Mr. Endo.

He has never been defeated in any of the international championship matches he has participated in. Since everybody believed that he would win gold medals at the Olympics held in Moscow last year, the decision of Japan not to participate in that international event must have been a heavy blow for Mr. Yamashita.

"Frankly," he says, "it was a great shock, but soon I realized that I had been too consicious of the Olympics. Some people try to console me saying, 'The Los Angeles Olympics will soon be held.' But no one can be confident about how he will be three years later. Instead, I should like to do my best studying techniques, with the goal of complete mastery of the art of Judo."

The program presents Mr. Yamashita and his life devoted to Judo.

July 13: A Farmer Poet — Mr. Masaki Takeuchi (52)

Mr. Takeuchi, who lives in Yawata city in Shiga prefecture which borders on Kyoto, was born into a farming family, and now tends 160 cows and cultivates 4 hectares of paddy fields and vegetables. He is also well-known in his own right as a poet, and has written many outstanding poems based on his experiences as a farmer. Recently he was awarded the 24th Peasant Literature Price.

Mr. Takeuchi is also well versed in the financial aspects of farming operations, paying constant attention to the international price of cattle feed. For this reason he was appointed the president of the prefectural animal husbandry promotion association. Perhaps because of his shrewed business sense, his poems are filled with such phrases as "technique," "the key to making a profit", etc, which are usually regarded as alien to the world of poetry. Although rather pragmatic in their approach, Mr. Takeuchi's readers are apparently impressed with the strength of his poetry.

Some of his poems will be presented in the program which describes the diversified life of this farmer poet.

July 20: Living in the Interior of Amazon — Mr. Chiriki Yoshii (43)

Twenty one years ago Mr. Chiriki Yoshii went to Brazil. Overcoming many hardships he managed to build an agricultural and animal husbandry research institute in the interior of the Amazon. Now at 43, he is back in Japan with his Brazilian wife and three children to study the agriculture here.

He built the research institute on a spacious area of 1,200 hectares, and research is now being conducted on rice, rubber and coffee. The Brazilian government however felt it was necessary to introduce new knowledge and techniques from Japan and arrange personnel exchanges between the two countries, so, they urged Mr. Yoshii to study in Japan for 2 years. So he resigned his post as the director of the research institute, and came back to his home land.

The program introduces Mr. Yoshii who expects to enrol for a 2 year graduate course at the Agricultural department of Utsunomiya University in Ibaraki, north of Tokyo. When he has completed his studies he will return to Brazil to continue his dedicated work.

July 27: A Genius of Rod-and Line Tuna Fishing — Mr. Mikio Tokuda (52)

Mr. Tokuda, who lives in Shirahama in Wakayama prefecture in central Japan, is famous among Japanese fishermen for his genius at rod-and-line tuna fishing. Recently he has been invited not only by various places in Japan but also New Caledonia, as well as Hawaii, to demonstrate the secret of his fishing success.

Mr. Tokuda was born to an old respectable family in Shirahama town in Wakayama prefecture near Osaka. When young, he wanted to become a writer. At 28, he began fishing as a hobby. He knew the fish he caught sold at good prices, and he loved the thrill of pulling out to the rough sea all by himself on board a small fishing vessel. So at 33 he decided to become a professional fisherman. On his 8.5 ton fibreglass fishing vessel, he sometimes goes to the distant seas of Hokkaido and even to the Japan Sea on the northern side of the Japanese Archipelago in search of bonito and tuna. He has extensive knowledge of the currents and temperatures of the sea, so he easily catches more than twice as many fish as the fishermen in his region. His fishing colleagues have nicknamed him "master".

The program presents Mr. Tokuda, who says he feels quite at home giving lectures about fishing because be began his career as an amateur.

The program describes the life and character of this man who is so enchanted by the sea that he has not even married.

(Kenzo Yaguchi, Manager, European and American Service, Radio Japan, letter to Kim Andrew Elliott) We were delighted to hear that our program ONE IN A HUNDRED MILLION was selected from among programs of various countries to receive an award for excellence in the Second Annual Review of International Broadcasting. We are deeply grateful and honored. We shall take this opportunity to make further efforts to improve our programs for our listeners all over the world. We should appreciate it very much if you would kindly continue giving us your valuable criticism and opinions of Radio Japan programs. With best wishes for the success of your organization in future.

I S R A E L (Joel Rubin, Berkeley CA) KY"G" (Kol Yisrael "la-Golah")'s feature programs are, apparently, back in production, as of May 31 (according to an announcement at 2000 --although the feature, recorded music for Yom Yerushalayim (Jerusalem Day) could have just as easily been on during the strikes.) That "la-Golah" part sounds like they're only broadcasting to Jews--and it's a bit patronizing to us (la-Golah = "to the Exile")

gh: The Slow-Scan TV test missed due to the strike on May 24-25 has been re-scheduled for July 26-27; they were also planning special election coverage June 30-July 1 on 15485 at 2000-0600 in English & French.

(Maxfield Greenwood, PA) I found Kol Israels post-mortem coverage of the death of an Iraq nuclear reactor site, via a few well-placed Israeli bombs, to have been most excellent. They brought before this listener a montage of opinions, facts, yays and nays, from with in and without Israel. Just sort of threw all the bits and pieces and chunks of this complex matter across my mind, where I, feeling I had been given a fair revealing, did make up my view on this matter. And, in this instance, I did concur with what they had done, with their bombing of the "Osiris" nuke plant. And this agreement with them is made more significant when it is considered, I before tuning in the Kol Israel broadcast, was quite prepared to disagree. I expected a propagandistic and blatantly "we were right, we were right" promotion. No, it was not like that at all. They quoted the disagreement from the French nuclear physicist with the Israeli contention that the reactor site was a very real and present danger of the Iraqis soon completing a nuclear bomb. And they quoted the French scientists view, that there was real danger of radiation leakage, as a result of the attack. (France, by the way, was the builder of this reactor). They gave much of the Arab world's views on the matter--and Reagan's--and just in general, a full portion of varied data. There were no obfuscations, or harangues, or subjects avoided, to the best of my knowledge. And for this day, June 9, I gave Kol Israel an A--no, an A+. But I must clarify what I meant by my agreement, or I will have missed the point of this writing,

More About Japan

Energy Problems in the 80's. How Japan Tackles Them.

One of the great problems in the '80s is the "Energy Shortage". There is no doubt that the energy shortage will have all sorts of influences on every country, particularly an industrialized nation like Japan which relies heavily on oil as an energy source. It is, therefore, an urgent task for this country to find alternative sources of energy to take the place of the earth's rapidly dwindling resources of oil, which never seems to stop increasing in price. Could it be nuclear power or solor energy? or perhaps coal might make a comeback?

In More About Japan for the month of July, you'll hear how Japanese industrialists, technologists, scientists and economists view the energy shortage and how they are trying to tackle the problems involved.

1st Week: How the Oil Crisis Affected Japan.
2nd Week: Can Coal Make a Comeback?
3rd Week: We Badly Need Nuclear Energy. But . . .
4th Week: Solar Energy – When Will the Dream Come True?
5th Week: International Cooperation in the Development of Alternative Energy Sources. What Can Japan Do?

(North American Service, North, Central & South American and Hawaiian Service, Australian & New Zealand Service – Thursdays
General Service – Saturdays (GMT))

A Japanese Singsong

A new program to be broadcast 4 times a year during the MUSIC TIME hour

In response to listeners expressed desire to learn some Japanese songs, we will be broadcasting a new program, called A JAPANESE SINGSONG this year during the hour of MUSIC TIME 4 times a year – in July, October, December and March.

The song to be presented in the first installment is called "SHIKINO UTA". Miss Yoko Seri, a singer whose unique and heart-felt singing style has made her very popular in Japan, will be your instructor. She has sung this song many times over the past 10 years.

It is a beautiful song, the words of which, in describing the seasons, compare each to a friend, father, sweetheart and mother. This short song has 8 bars. The words are simple and the melody cheerful, and straightforward. We believe that our listeners will find it very easy to learn.

In fact, it is the most popular songs of the foreign students and technical trainees who come and stay in this country.

The music and words of SHIKINO UTA and its outline in English are printed below. So please keep them handy and we hope you enjoy listening to the program and learning to sing it yourself. Your announcer is Mrs. Kaoru Kubo, your friend for many years.

The following is the broadcasting schedule of A JAPANESE SINGSONG according to different transmissions:

July 26 (Sun.) – Australian & New Zealand Service, North American Service, North, Central, South American and Hawaiian Service

July 28 (Tues.) – European Service (I) (II), Southeast Asian Service (II), South Asian & African Service (II), Middle East & North African Service

Miss Yoko Seri

Shikino Uta

1 **Haruo o aisuru hito wa kokoro kiyoki hito sumireno hana no yona boku no tomodachi**

2 **Natsu o aisuru hito wa kokoro tsuyoki hito iwao kudaku nami no yona boku no chichioya**

3 **Aki o aisuru hito wa kokoro fukaki hito al o kataru haine no yona boku no koibito**

4 **Fuyu o aisuru hito wa kokoro hiroki hito neyuki o tokasu daichi no yona boku no hahaoya**

The Song of The Four Seasons

1. Spring lovers are pure at heart, like a violet, they are my friends.
2. Summer lovers have strong minds, like a wave which hits the rock, they are my father.
3. Autumn lover has deep thought, like Heine who confesses his love, that person is my lover.
4. Winter lovers are generous people, like the earth which melts the snow, they are my mother.

SHIKINO UTA

Words and Music by Toyohisa Araki
JASRAC ℓ No. 8013617S

Am
Dm
Am
E7
Am
Dm
Am
1 HA RU O A I SU RU III TO WA KO KO RO KI YO KU III TO
2 NA TSU O A I SU RU III TO WA KO KO RO TSU YO KU III TO
3 A KI O A I SU RU III TO WA KO KO RO A KA KU III TO
4 FU YU O A I SU RU III TO WA KO KO RO III KO KI III TO
1 SU MI RE NO HA NA NO YO O NA HO KU NO TO MO DA CHI YA
2 WA KU HA NO YO NA NO YO O NA HO KU NO CHI CHI YA
3 A I O KA TA RU DA NE NO YO NA HO KU NO HA HA O YA
4 NEN KI O TO KA SU DA CHI NO YO O NA HO KU NO HA HA O YA

Science and Industry Journal

July 2: Energy Conserving Electric Trains
July 9: The Value of Company Magazines being Recognized
July 16: A New Chemical Compound which can Store Solar Energy
July 23: Marine Farms
July 30: Computer Errors Increasing

(ISRAEL, Greenwood, continued) completely.

By agreement, I mean with Israel, and not with Kol Israel, for in this instance Kol Israel did not state a position; they were merely communicators of other persons' point of view, and stating of the evidence, relative to different viewpoints. They did what an international broadcaster should do, regardless of their emotional involvement--and that is, report, report, report, from north, south, west, and all points of the compass. I surely don't mean, simply, geographic points. As per my other critiques, elsewhere; this I hold up as an example of one the others should follow, and also one I encourage Kol Israel themselves should keep a hold of, and replay, whenever they feel tempted to get non-reportive, and detached, and turn to calculated slant, and/or propagandizing.

I R A Q (Richard E. Wood, MO) Radio Baghdad naturally made fascinating listening in the aftermath of the Israeli bombing raid on the Iraqi nuclear reactor. The English news on good new frequency 21585 kHz at 0300 June 10 referred indignantly to the raid, but gave prime billing to supposed Iraqi triumphs in the "just war with the Persian racists," and spoke of an objective

alliance between the "Persian racists" and the "Zionist aggressors." To understand Baghdad's newscasts under conditions of average shortwave reception, it is important to be familiar with Iraq's stock vocabulary. In particular, the names Iran and Israel are not likely to be heard; listeners, therefore, must watch out for the codewords "Persian racists" and "Zionist aggressors," "Zionism," "the Zionist entity," etc. Likewise, Iraqi "deaths" are not announced, but reference is made to "martyrs," "martyrdom."

G R E N A D A (Hazel-Anne Pascal, Govt Info Service May 22 news release via Bill Schaap, DC) New Transmitter for RFG Soon. The construction of the Beausejour Transmitter for Radio Free Grenada is due for completion in the next two months. The Project which began in January will cost the Government some $960,000 with $500,000 going towards the purchasing of the transmitter. The upgrading of RFG's power is being made possible under the terms of a Technical & Scientific Cooperation Agreement between the People's Revolutionary Government of Grenada and the Government of Cuba. Under the agreement Cuba will provide the technicians to install the transmitter and Grenadians will be trained to effectively maintain it. At present, work is progressing rapidly with the final laying of blocks on the building itself, the roof having been completed and the door and window frames already installed. There are approximately 68 persons employed on the construction site in masonry, carpentry, plumbing, steel bending and electrical wiring. In addition to the skilled workers there are 35 casual workers. With the increase power [to 75 kilowatts] to the local Radio Station which has been in operation for 24 years at a medium wave of 1 kilowatt, Grenadians are looking forward to the increase power in Carriacou, Petit Martinique and in the northern part of the country.

E L S A L V A D O R (Louisville Courier-Journal, May 31, via Ken MacHarg, over in IN)

Salvadorans seize music of protest

By DIAL TORGERSON
© The Los Angeles Times

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador — The Salvadoran military, cracking down on what it calls the music of the subversives, yesterday completed a three-day effort to seize every recording of revolutionary and protest songs that it could find.

Working from a list of about 30 discs, soldiers went to record shops, warehouses and factories, seizing records by the thousands.

"This type of music foments the diffusion of anarchistic ideas and is against democracy," a spokesman for the military said.

Most of the records seized were in the Spanish language, and were by Spanish and Latin American artists.

The records of American folk singer Joan Baez, who sang protest songs in the 1960s, were not seized. In one shop an officer started to impound a record by a British-American rock group, Traffic, because the group picture on the cover looked anarchic, but the clerk convinced him the album is apolitical.

While there is no official censorship in El Salvador, newspapers and radio stations in the capital city do not risk the wrath of the army or the right-wing vigilantes by printing or broadcasting anything to which the government might object.

The protest songs are never heard on the local radio stations, but they are broadcast by Radio Venceremos (we shall win), the clandestine radio of the leftist guerrillas, and by Radio Havana, which is easily received. Recordings of the protest songs have, until this past week, been sold at the more than 60 record shops in San Salvador.

"The subversives use the protest songs to send secret messages to each other," a military spokesman was quoted as saying.

Thursday and Friday, the days when most of the record seizures were made, groups of armed and uniformed soldiers and national police entered each shop, seizing the records and giving managers receipts for those taken. There was no explanation of how or when the shop owners would be paid for the records.

Many of the records marked for seizure were songs from the Sandinista revolution in Nicaragua. One, the Sandinista hymn, tells of fighting against the cruel oppressors and includes the verse, "We fight against the Yankees, the enemies of humanity."

(Warren Linds[?], Tugaske Sask) I am wondering whether there is any more information or similar articles about this item which comes (translated) from "Prisma LatinoAmericano", a Cuban monthly--May 1981 edition, in an article on Nicaragua: "...(Coordinator of the Political Commission of the FSLN) Bayardo Arce had referred before to a "destabilizing strategy" of Washington against Nicaragua. The denunciation --made before the IV Congress of Nicaraguan journalists, stated that the plans of aggression were prepared in the recommendations of the Group of Santa Fe, headed by the National Security Advisor, Richard W. Allen. This plan included the projected radio transmitter of 20 kW power which will be installed in the area of Meonpuera[?], El Salvador, with repeaters in Honduras and Costa Rica, to bombard Nicaragua airspace with hostile propaganda." One question I have is whether this station will be VOA or clandestine, shortwave (that is, be part of the right-wing stations already reported in RIB), or which sounds more probable--AM.

C H I L E (The Times, Apr 29 via Watson, WDXC) Six people claiming to be from the Popular Resistance Movement took over Radio Portales, in Santiago, and called for a national strike to overthrow the Chilean government. Just as the station's morning news program was being broadcast at 7:30 am, the six armed with automatic machine guns entered the building and locked up the station staff; they then began broadcasting revolutionary speeches and appeals over the air starting with "Attention workers of Chile, this is the Voice of Resistance on air, this is Liberation Radio". Then they hijacked a taxi and escaped; and the station resumed normalness.

C O O K I S L A N D S (Maxfield Greenwood, PA) The Alternative. Never thought I would see the day when I would truly be an SWL to the Cooks, Rarotonga; on almost a nightly basis. But it's happened, and May 31-June 3 have been the best, in that it has been a turn on the radio, tune in 11760, and enjoy. I listened to the ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES on June 1, and almost didn't miss a word. Basically I just listen to their mixture of western pop and island pop, and enjoy also the oft present call-in show, HAPPY-TIME. I don't understand Maori, but if this keeps up, I will. It's fun, it's

C H I N A (gh) Here, courtesy the Asian Broadcasting Institute, in Tokyo, Japan, we have an English translation of the program schedules for the main domestic services; first and second programs are on many SW frequencies; schedules appear periodically in Listeners Notebook (see back cover) e.g. Dec 1980 Even if you don't understand Chinese, this should be of interest, to listeners and scholars--

CENTRAL PEOPLE'S BROADCASTING STATION PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

(Carried out from June 1, 1981)

FIRST PROGRAMME

2000 "The East is Red", Programme Preview
2010 Summary News
2015 Music
2040 Drama
2100 News
2110 Music
2120 Radio Exercises
2130 Programme for Farm Villages(Mo.We.Fr.)
Central Agricultural Radio School(Tu.Th.Sa.)
Music(Su. to 2230)
2200 Scientific Knowledge(not Su.)
2215 Every Corner of Fatherland(Tu.Th.Sa.)
Every Corner of the World(Mo.We.Fr.)
2230 News and Summary of Newspapers
2300 Music(not Th.Su.)
Singing on the Screen(Th.)
Introduction of Foreign Music Work(Su. to 0000)
2315 Advertisement(not Su.)
2320 Learning Programme(not Su.)
2340 Liberation Army Life(not Su.)
0000 English Lecture(Mo.We.Fr.)
Sunday Broadcasting English(Su.)
Reading and Appreciation(Tu.Sa.)
Literature(Th.)
0030 News and Summary of Newspapers
0100 Music(Mo.Th.Sa.)
Drama, Drama Special Programme(Tu.Su.)
Radio Theater(We.Fr.)
0200 News and General Programme(not Su.)
Sunday Concert(Su. to 0300)
0230 Small Trumpet(not Su.)
0250 Advertisement(not Su.)
0300 International News(not Su.) Feat(Su. to 0345)
0315 Selected Scenes of Peking Opera(not Su.)
0345 Programme Preview
0350 Advertisement
0400 News and General Programme
0430 Serial Novel Programme
0500 Scientific Knowledge
0515 Music(not Su.) A Foreign Famous Tune(Su.)
0530 Movie, The new drama(Mo.Th.Su., Su. to 0630)
Music(Tu.Sa., Tu. to 0600)
Drama Programme at Listeners' Request(Su. from 0630)
Drama(We.Fr.)
(Tu. 0600 s/off)
0730 Sunday Broadcasting English(Su.)
Drama(Mo.Th.Sa.) Feat(We.Fr.)
0800 Small Trumpet(not Tu.)
0820 The Torch of Stars(not Tu.)
0840 Programme Preview(not Tu.)
0850 Music(not Tu.)
(Tu. 0855(s/on) "The East is Red", Programme Preview)
0900 News(not Su.) Radio Theater(Su. to 1000)
0910 English Lecture(Tu.Th.Sa.)
Music(Mo.We.Fr.)
0940 The Torch of Stars(not Su.)
1000 News
1015 Introduction of Evening Programmes
1020 Listeners' Letter Box(Su.)
Young Men's Companion(Mo.We.Fr.)
Pursuit of Sanitation(Tu.Th.Sa. to 1035; from 1035 to 1040 Advertisement)
1040 Liberation Army Life(not Sa.) Feat(Sa.)
1100 International Current Topics(not Su.)
Music(Su. to 1200)
1110 Advertisement(not Su.)
1115 Music(not Su.)
1130 Programme for Farm Villages(Mo.We.Fr.)
Central Agricultural Radio School(Tu.Th.Sa.)
1200 Each People's Broadcasting Station Chain Programme
1230 Literary Postbox(not Sa.Su.)
Wenyi(Sa. to 1430) Music Hall(Su. to 1345)
1315 Reading and Appreciation(Mo.Fr.)
The Window of Literature(Tu.We.Th.)
1345 Physical Culture Programme(not Sa.)
1400 Each People's Broadcasting Station Chain Programme (but Sa. from 1430)
1430 English Lecture(Mo.We.Fr.) Music(Tu.Th.) Drama(Su.)
1500 International News
1515 Music(Mo.Th.Sa.Su.) Drama(We.Fr.) Feat(Tu.)
1600 News
1610 Drama
1700 International News
1715 Music
1730 "International", Sign off

SECOND PROGRAMME

2100 "The East is Red", Programme Preview
2110 Music
2130 Drama
2200 English Lecture(Tu.Th.Sa.) Reading and Appreciation(We.Su.) Literature(Mo.Fr.)
2230 Music
2300 News and Summary of Newspapers
2330 Advertisement
2340 Drama
0000 Movie(Mo.We.Fr.Su., Su. to 0200) Music(Th. to 0200) Drama(Tu.Sa. to 0200)
0100 Music(Mo.We.Fr.)
0200 Learning Programme(not Su.)
Sunday Broadcasting English(Su. to 0230)
0220 Music(not Su.)
0245 Literary Postbox(not Su.Mo.) Music(Mo.)
Radio Theater(Su. from 0230)
0330 Programme for Farm Villages(Mo.We.Fr.)
Central Agricultural Radio School(Tu.Th.Sa.)
Music(Su. to 0430)
0400 Music(not Su.)
0415 Physical Culture Programme(not Su.)
0430 Listeners' Letter Box(Su.)
Young Men's Companion(Tu.Th.Sa.)
Pursuit of Sanitation(Mo.We.Fr. to 0445)
0450 Advertisement(but Mo.We.Fr. from 0445)
0455 Programme Preview
0500 International Current Topics(not Su.)
0510 Feat(Mo.We.Fr.Su., Su. from 0500) Music(Tu.Th.Sa.)
0530 Selected Scenes of Local Drama
0600 Drama(Mo.) Music(Th.Su.) Movie(Tu.Sa.)
(We.Fr. 0600 s/off)
0700 Summary News(not We.Fr.)
0705 Drama(not We.Fr.)
0720 Music(not We.Fr.)
0750 Radio Exercises(not We.Fr.)
0800 News(not We.Fr.)
0815 The Window of Literature(Mo.Sa.Su.) Literature(Tu. Th., Tu. to 0900)
0845 Feat(Mo.Th.Sa.Su.)
0900 Radio Theater(Mo.Tu.Th.Sa.) Drama(Su.)
(We.Fr. 0955(s/on) "The East is Red", Programme Preview)
1000 Music(Mo.We.Fr.Su.) Selected Scenes of Peking Opera (Tu.Th.Sa.)
1030 Drama
1040 Small Trumpet
1100 The Torch of Stars
1120 Advertisement
1125 Summary News
1130 Scientific Knowledge
1145 Music
1200 Drama Programme at Listeners' Request(Mo.) Drama, Drama Special Programme(We.) Music(Tu.Th.) Appreciation of Foreign Music(Sa.) Feat(Fr.Su., Su. to 1320)
1300 Learning Programme(not Su.)
1320 Advertisement
1330 Every Corner of Fatherland(Mo.We.Fr.)
Every Corner of the World(Tu.Th.Sa.)
Music(Su. to 1350)
1345 Summary News(not Su.)
1350 Serial Novel Programme
1420 Music(Mo.We.Fr.) Drama(Th.Sa.) Movie, The new drama (Tu.Su., Su. to 1555)
1550 Summary News(not Su.)
1555 "International", Sign off

THIRD PROGRAMME (FM)

0925 "The East is Red", Programme Preview
0930 Chinese Music
1000 Foreign Music
1030 Chinese Music
1100 Foreign Music
1200 Selected Scenes of Drama
1300 Chinese Music
1400 Foreign Music
1500 "International", Sign off

NOTE:

1) Attention! 2130(Mo.) means 0530 on Monday in Peking Time. (Peking Time=GMT+8 hours)
2) Central Agricultural Radio School Programme will start from July 14, 1981. Till then, Programme for Farm Villages will be broadcast on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

(COOK ISLANDS) mellow yellow; and for this cynic, regards the international broadcasters, in terms of SWR, this is what I love above all--and that is, just slipping in, unnoticed on another fellow's turf (surf?) and participate, however benignly, on their radio-listening life. For, in these instances, be it Rarotonga, Kiribati, Guyana, Perth, Wellington, or going the other way, the home service Africans, when in season--for this listener, this is where it's at, when it comes to "radio-vision". As I noted under VIETNAM, the huckster international broadcasters aren't for me, even when only telling me how they make "Bulgarian fruit-cake", or dance the "Ukrainian stomp". No, with rare exceptions of the BBC (when not reporting on Northern Ireland), or RadioBras, or Radio Nederland or RCI and a couple others--I find I don't care a twit for IBC, for I can't live with anything that has impure motives. So, it's the Cooks for me, or Tahiti, or even Radio Luxembourg (which I once condemned, showing how much a 180° truning I am moving through). If, however, the VOA would instead simply relay NPR and sports, such as AFRTS, I would listen to them. It's ironic, but our military arm is our home service, and most truly representative broadcaster, whereas VOA, that which should represent the democratic way of life, by simply and nakedly relaying all our voices, in a candid, unhuckstering way, is merely a wishy/washy, drip-dry polyester plastic Huckster. So, back to 11760, you lovers of the Big Con, I'll see you, again; when the world blows up in your face. (And my curse is, I can't receive AFRTS!!)

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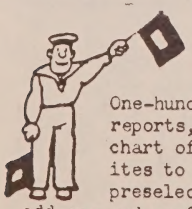
C A N A D A (gh) As of June 22, RCI is back on the air but before 2000 GMT only; DX DIGEST will not resume until the full schedule is back in effect. NPR's STAR WARS starts on CBC in the former NIGHTFALL slot July 3 for 13 week run. ANTHOLOGY, 10:05 pm Sats (local) July 4 & 11 has panel discussions on science fiction.

A U S T R A L I A (Robert Browne, Memphis TN) June 8; just heard sneak preview of SPECTRUM, Radio Australia's new DX program! Starts the first Sunday of July (5th), and monthly, at 0612, 0810, 1612, 2112, GMT Monday 0112; about 15 minutes long mixing DX tips, technical stuff, talks on DX clubs and receivers. In the preview, co-hosted by a woman, I presume Mary Adams, he went over the basics of SW radio (QSL cards, what DX stands for, etc.) Dick Speekman, the host. The preview ran from about 0130 to 0155. gh: Best time for North America should be GMT Mondays 0112 on 21740, 17795. SOME LAST MINUTE NEWS--Private/pirate IBC in Italy is testing Sundays 1300-2000 on 21475 USB (watch out for Finland, Portugal, etc.) New station in Peru is R. JSB, 1100-0500, testing 6060, per SCDX; (watch out for Habana, Argentina, etc.) Richard Wood found Radio Peking in English 0100 on 15520, apparently replacing 15120. SODRE English from Uruguay hrd at 0005 June 18 on 11885, says Richard.

(ADVERTISEMENT -- Please Say You Saw It In RIB)



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by Larry Brookwell, SDDXC

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